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Saturday, September 4, 2010

INSIDE TODAY

U.S. NEWS

Small signal, big meaning? Castro in military duds



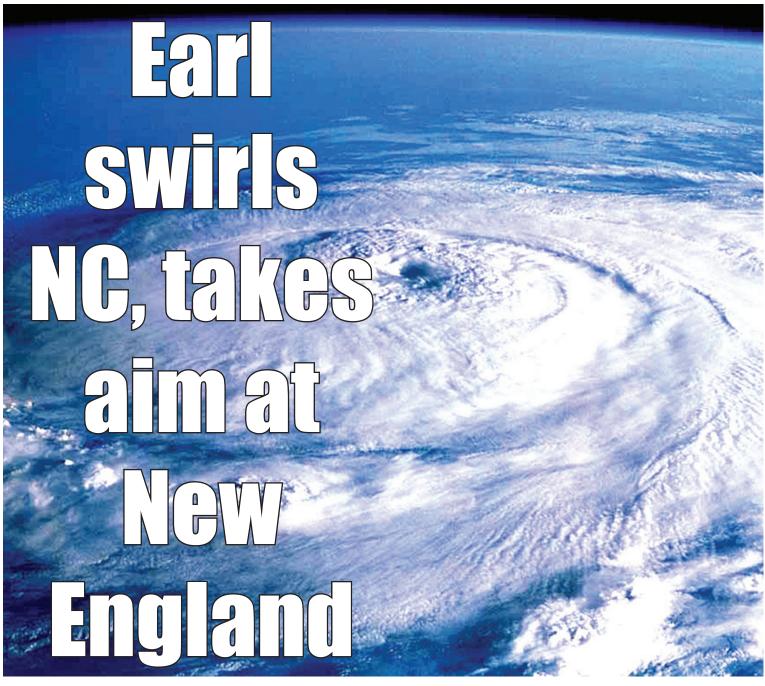
Cuba's leader Fidel Castro delivers a speech to students outside Havana's University in Havana, Cuba, Friday, Sept. 3, 2010. Castro dusted off his military fatigues for the first time since stepping down as president four years ago, a symbolic act in a Communist country where little signals often carry enormous significance.

Associated Press

PAUL HAVEN
Associated Press Writer
HAVANA (AP) — Fidel
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military uniform for the first
time since stepping down as
president four years ago, a
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significance.

Continued on page 6





CHATHAM, Mass. – A weakening Hurricane Earl swiped past North Carolina on Friday on its way to New England, where officials warned residents that it still packed dangerous winds that could topple trees or damage the area's picturesque gray-shingled cottages.

Earl dropped to a Category 1 storm — down from a powerful Category 4 a day earlier — with sustained winds of 80 mph. The storm could weaken to a tropical storm by the time it passes about 50 to 75 miles southeast of Nantucket on Friday night, said National Hurricane Center Director Bill Read.

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Continued from front page

"The good news on Earl is it has been steadily weakening, maybe even a little quicker than forecast," Read said.

Nantucket police chief William Pittman warned island residents against complacency, saying Earl was "still a dangerous storm" with severe winds that could be stronger than those carried by the gusty nor'easters the island is used to absorbing.

The National Hurricane Center reduced the New England areas under a hurricane warning to just Cape Cod and the islands. The rest of the New England coast remained under tropical storm warnings and watches

As of 2 p.m. EDT, Earl's center was located about 290 miles (465 kilometers) south-southwest of Nantucket, Mass., and moving north-northeast at nearly 21 mph (33 kph).

Most of the hurricane force winds were expected to remain offshore. The National Weather Service was forecasting winds up to 65 mph on Nantucket with gusts up to 85 mph. On Cape Cod, winds up to 45 mph with gusts of up to 60 mph were expected.

Earl sideswiped North Carolina's Outer Banks early Friday, flooding the vacation islands but causing no injuries and little damage. The storm's winds had dropped by then to 105 mph from 145 mph a day before.

Hurricane-force winds, which start at 74 mph, apparently did not reach the Outer Banks, said the National Hurricane Center's chief forecaster, James Franklin. Officials had urged some 35,000 visitors and residents on the Outer Banks to leave the dangerously exposed islands as the storm closed in, but hundreds chose to wait it out in their boarded-up homes.

Nancy Scarborough of Hatteras said she had about a foot of water underneath her home, which is on stilts. "Once it goes down, it shouldn't take long to get things back together," she said.

In New Jersey, authorities on Friday called off a search for the second victim of rough surf this week. Pardip Singh, of Carteret, entered the ocean Thursday night with a group of people in Belmar



but did not emerge. His disappearance came on the same day that authorities recovered the body of a 23-year-old Asbury Park man who drowned after entering the roiling waters Tuesday.

In Massachusetts, Gov. Deval Patrick declared a state of emergency Thursday as he urged residents not to panic.

On Friday, many seemed to be following his advice. Traffic was light on both bridges to and from Cape Cod, where the air was still and heavy rains started in the late morning.

In downtown Chatham, a quaint fishing village at Cape Cod's eastern edge, tourists strolled the bookstores, cafes, candy shops and ice cream parlors on Main Street, largely unconcerned about the coming storm.

A handful of stores had put plywood over their windows, including the Ben Franklin Old

Fashioned Variety Store. "C'mon Earl, we're ready for you," a handwritten note read.

In a parking lot near downtown, five large utility trucks sat waiting and linemen milled about, ready to fix any possible power outages. A handful of people walked on a beach nearby, the waves gently lapping the sand.

In Barnstable, Ellen McDonough, of Boston, and a friend were waiting Friday morning for one of the last ferries to Nantucket before service was stopped around noon. The two had planned a Labor Day weekend getaway to the island and didn't see Earl as a good reason to cancel.

"It's not a three-foot snow storm. I think us New Englanders are tough," McDonough said. "We've had this weekend planned, and no hurricane is going to stop us."

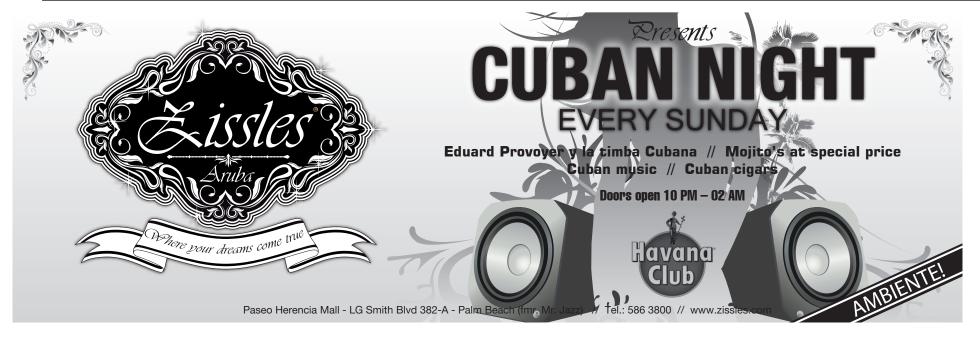




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Birth tourism' exploding in USA

SAN JUAN, Texas – When Ruth Garcia's twins are born in two months, they'll have all the rights of U.S. citizens. They and their six brothers and sisters will be able to vote, apply for federal student loans and even run for president.

Garcia is an illegal immigrant who crossed into the country about 14 years ago, before her children were born, and the citizenship granted to her children and millions others like them is at the center of a divisive national debate.

Republicans pushing congressional hearings consider changing the nation's 14th Amendment to deny such children the automatic citizenship the Constitution guarantees. They say women like Garcia are taking advantage of a constitutional amendment meant to guarantee the rights of freed slaves, and paint a picture of pregnant women rushing across the border to give birth. A recent Pew Hispanic Center study shows 8 percent of the 4.3 million babies born in the U.S. in 2008 had at least one illegal parent.

A closer examination of the issue shows that the trend is not as dramatic as some immigration opponents have claimed.

Most children of illegal immigrants are born to parents like Garcia who have made the United States their home for years.

Out of 340,000 babies born to illegal immigrants in the United States in 2008, 85 percent of the parents had been in the country for more than a

year, and more than half for at least five years, Jeffrey Passel, a senior demographer for Pew, told The Associated Press.

And immigration experts say it's extraordinarily rare for immigrants to come to the U.S. just so they can have babies and get citizenship. In most cases, they come to the U.S. for economic reasons and better hospitals, and end up staying and raising families.

Garcia's husband has been deported and she earns a living selling tamales to other immigrants who live in fear of being deported from the slapdash, impoverished colonias that dot the Texas-Mexico border.

"I think that children aren't at fault for having been born here," Garcia said. "My children always have lived here. They've never gone to another country."

Under current immigration law, Garcia and others like her don't get U.S. citizenship even though their children are Americans.

With an estimated 11.1 million illegal immigrants living in the United States, the issue strikes a chord with many voters — people like retired Air Force nurse and pediatric nurse practitioner Susan Struck, 66, of Double Adobe, Ariz.

"People come over ... and they have babies with U.S. birth certificates, then they go back over the border with that Social Security number, with that birth certificate," and have access to public services, she said at a recent event near the border organized by conservative tea party activists.

Several prominent Republican

leaders share Struck's beliefs on the issue. Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina has been a vocal advocate for changing the Constitution, and he helped the issue gain momentum heading into the midterm elections.

"Women have traveled from across the world for the purpose of adding a U.S. passport holder to their family, as far away as China, Turkey and as close as Mexico," said Jon Feere, legal analyst for the Center for ImmigrationStudies, which advocates for strict immigration laws.

Still, changing the Constitution is highly unlikely, legal scholars say. Measures have been introduced in each two-year congressional session since 2005, but none has made it out of committee. Constitutional changes require approval by two-thirds majorities in both chambers of Congress, an impossibility now because Democrats have the majority in both houses and most oppose such a measure. Even if Republicans gain power in November and legislation is passed, an amendment would still need to be ratified by three-fourths of the states.

To be sure, some pregnant Mexican women do come to the United States. In border cities like Nogales, women have been coming to the U.S. for decades to give birth, although the primary reason is better medical care, Santa Cruz County sheriff Tony Estrada said. Billboards advertising birthing services in Arizona line streets across the border in Nogales, Mexico.

Tucson Medical Center, 115 miles southeast of Phoenix, offers packages designed to provide inclusive care to new mothers. The program draws some residents of the northern Mexican state of Sonora who can afford its upfront costs and already have U.S. visas, spokesman Michael Letson said.

Princeton University demographer Douglas Massey said in 30 years studying Mexican immigration, he's never interviewed a migrant who said they came to the United States just to get citizenship for their children.

'Mexicans do not come to have babies in the United States," said Massey, who blames the tightening of the border in the 1990s for cutting off normal migration of men who used to come to work for a year or two and then go home. "They end up having babies in the United States because men can no longer circulate freely back and forth from homes in Mexico to jobs in the United States and husbands and wives quite understandably want to be together." More common, he and other experts says, are families stuck with one child who is legal and others who aren't — like Beatriz Gomez, a 35-yearold illegal immigrant who came to Phoenix 11 years ago on a nowexpired tourist visa from Arriaga in the Mexican state of Chiapas.

Her 12-year-old daughter was born in Mexico and is here illegally, but her two youngest children, ages 8 and 5, were born in the U.S. and are citizens.

"It's sad," Gomez said of her oldest daughter, who was only 1 when the family came to the United States. "She studies hard, and she won't be able to go to a university like the other two."

Saturday, September 4, 2010 POLITICS

Aruba—TODAY

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Pearl Harbor marks 65th anniversary of WWII's end

PEARL HARBOR,
Hawaii – Like many
other vets, Don Fosburg
marked the anniversary
of World War II's end
reflecting on a victory dearly
earned and on men who
helped make that happen but
never came home.

"You start to thinking about the guys that you knew. You can't help but do that. And maybe you think you're pretty lucky," said the 84-year-old, who was a radioman aboard the USS Missouri during the war.

"I had a cousin who was on Bataan and didn't survive. His brother was blown up off the coast of Africa," said Fosburg, a retired insurance broker from Whittier, Calif.

He returned the Missouri — now a museum moored in Pearl Harbor — for a ceremony Thursday commemorating 6 1/2 decades since Japan formally signed surrender papers on board the battleship when it was anchored in Tokyo Bay on Sept. 2, 1945. Fosburg remembered the mood being calmer than some two weeks before that occasion, on the night of Aug. 15, when sailors cheered and hollered after fellow radioman got word Japan had agreed to unconditionally surrender. "He woke me up: 'They've

accepted the surrender. The

war is over!' Then it went

through the ship, and it was quite a bit of celebration," Fosburg said. "It woke everybody up."

Veterans Secretary Eric Shinseki, who delivered the keynote address, hailed the sacrifices of those who fought on Pacific atolls, European forests and manned supply depots and refueling stations.

"All great leaders know the mightiest undertakings succeed because of the strength and courage, determination and sacrifice, of men and women whose names will never be recorded in history books or memorialized in museums," said Shinseki, a retired fourstar general.

The Missouri today sits just behind the USS Arizona, which sank in the Japanese attack that pushed the U.S. into the war in 1941. Sen. Daniel Inouye, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism in Italy, told the crowd the two ships are the bookends of World War II

The Arizona represents the sacrifice and resilient spirit of the American people, while the Missouri speaks of America's triumphant victory, he said.

"They send a strong message to our allies, while cautioning potential enemies, that we can endure hardships, that we persevere



and, yes, we will emerge victorious," Inouye said.

The "Mighty Mo" was launched in 1944 and fought in the battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa. It was decommissioned in 1955 but revived in the 1980s, after which it fired some of the first shots of the Gulf War in 1991.

The battleship went into dry dock last year for three

months of sanding and painting to remove rust that had built up on the ship's hull. The \$18 million overhaul was its first in 17 years.

One of the Missouri's wartime crew, 94-year-old Frank Borrell, said he was seeing his battleship for the last time. Borrell has been diagnosed with lung cancer and was told he has four months to live.

"I told my wife, 'Before I die, I want to see my ship again," Borrell said. "This couldn't have been a better place for me to see it."

The Beacon, N.Y. native, now retired to Orlando, Fla., came to Hawaii with the help of the Dream Foundation, a California-based nonprofit that grants wishes to adults facing life-threatening illnesses.



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Former egg farm workers say complaints ignored



DES MOINES, Iowa - U.S. Agriculture Department employees worked full-time at two Iowa egg farms at the center of a salmonella outbreak and massive recall, but two former workers said they ignored complaints about conditions at one site.

The USDA employees worked next to areas where roughly 7.7 million caged hens laid eggs at the two operations, but agency spokesman Caleb Weaver said their main duties are "grading" the eggs and they aren't primarily responsible for looking for health problems.

In response to the outbreak that has led to a recall of about 550 million eggs, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration examined the WrightCounty Egg and Hillandale Farms and noted in a report this week that inspectors found rodents, wild birds, seeping manure and maggots in the operations there.

Weaver said the USDA employee who oversaw grading at the facility did not recall anyone raising issues.

Two former workers at Wright County Egg facilities, Robert and Deanna Arnold, said they reported problems such as leaking manure and dead chickens to USDA employees, but nothing was done. The USDA "graders" worked in buildings adjacent to where hens laid eggs, focusing on weighing, measuring and inspecting eggs before they were packaged. They are the people who determine if an egg is A or AA, for instance.

"It didn't matter which USDA officer was working, if we reported something they would just turn their heads," Deanna Arnold said. "They didn't care"

The Arnolds said the USDA workers rotated in and out of the facility every week or two

Arnold recalled that when she advised one USDA employee of a problem, she was told to ignore it.

"She just said go back to doing your job and that there was nothing they could do," Deanna Arnold said.

The Arnolds worked at Wright County's Galt Farm and another at Alden, Iowa, on and off over several years from the early 1990s to late 2008 and early 2009, when they left to seek other work because of dissatisfaction with the company.

Nursing homes broaden offerings to turn a profit

MIAMI - Seniors amble the nursing home's halls, while children from around the world visit for biofeedback treatments. One floor down from the hospice, middleaged workers fill its pain management clinic. rehabilitation center attracts people of all ages.

For decades, the mission at Miami Jewish Home and Hospital was simple: To care for the old. But like nursing homes around the country, the facility is changing how it does business because of consumer demands and the economic realities of selling a service nearly no one wants. "This is a place of life. This isn't a place of impending death," said Blaise Mercadante, chief marketing officer at Miami Jewish. "And that's fundamentally the mindset change."

Other companies whose core business has been housing the elderly are also coming up with new ways to make money, but Miami Jewish has taken the innovation further than most. While similar providers have expanded senior-related offerings like in-home care or assisted living, the South Florida home took a gamble in recent years by hiring specialists in fields that attract younger patients.

The moves are paying off: Miami Jewish expects to break even in 2011 after several years of losses.

"Nursing homes are waking up more and more to the reality that their old model of doing business is not going to hold up in the 21st century," said Elinor Ginzler, an expert on long-term care at AARP. Another provider that's changed its mix of services



is Ecumen, which operates 70 senior communities in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota and Idaho.

In 2004, Ecumen derived more than 80 percent of its \$99 million in revenues from traditional nursing homes. Five years later, revenues climbed to \$126 million while nursing homes' share fell to less than 60 percent, as Ecumen markedly expanded assisted living complexes that allow seniors to be more independent. A \$2.5 million loss in 2005 became a \$937,000 profit last year.

"We were heavily invested and reliant on a product that wasn't very popular," said Mick Finn, one of the company's a vice presidents. "That's a no-win proposition for any business."

Meanwhile, managers of its facilities were challenged to find new ways to make money off their existing services.

One began offering meals from its cafeteria pickup service community members. Another started an online business selling incontinence products. A third opened its fitness classes to nonresidents. "It was either diversify or die," said Eric Schubert, another Ecumen vice president.

Even as the number of older Americans surges with the aging of the massive baby boom generation, demand for nursing homes is decreasing.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that the number of nursing home residents fell from 1.63 million in 1999 to 1.49 million in 2004, the last year for which data is available. Meanwhile, the number of nursing homes decreased by nearly 16 percent over the two decades ending in 2004.

Demand for services like assisted living, in-home care and adult day care, meanwhile, is booming. Nursing homes have expanded their offerings to cope with shortfalls after finding that in many cases they are unable to provide care for less than the amount they are reimbursed under Medicaid, the main governmental provider of long-term care.

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Aruba_TODAY

CASTRO

Continued from front page

The revolutionary leader wore the olive-green cap and uniform — minus the star and laurels he held as commander in chief — at a speech early Friday to students at the University of Havana. The clothing choice was sure to revive speculation the 84-year-old is seeking a larger role in Cuban politics after turning power over to his younger brother Raul.

Castro repeated his warning that the world stands on the brink of a nuclear conflagration due to tension pitting the United States and Israel against Iran. He has returned to the message almost daily since emerging from seclusion in July.

But Friday's 35-minute speech to thousands of students assembled on and in front of the majestic stairway leading to the historic university was by far Castro's most significant. Previously, Castro has mostly spoken in closed sessions to small groups, and his appearances were usually not announced ahead of time. Castro — who began his political career as a student

activist at the same university 60 years ago — said it has fallen to his tiny island to warn the world of the looming nuclear threat, and that it was important that it did not fail.

"Faced with the skeptics, our duty is to keep up the fight," Castro said. "I am convinced that a good number of people are becoming conscious of the reality."

Castro has said he fears that fresh U.N. sanctions will give the U.S. and Israel the right to intercept Iranian ships, which will lead to an armed confrontation that could go nuclear. At one point, he went so far as to warn that the conflict would break out before the later rounds of the World Cup soccer tournament in July, only to apologize for jumping the gun when hostilities did not materialize. He thanked the university students for their support, saying he has always appreciated their backing.

"In this, like in many battles of the past, we can win," he said of his efforts to warn the world of the nuclear danger.

Castro stepped down — first temporarily, then permanently — in July 2006 after a serious illness that nearly killed him.



Cuba's leader Fidel Castro, left, salutes while listening to his national anthem before delivering a speech to students outside Havana's university in Havana, Cuba, Friday, Sept. 3, 2010. Castro dusted off his military fatigues for the first time since stepping down as president four years ago, a symbolic act in a Communist country where little signals often carry enormous significance. Associated Press

He stayed almost entirely out has of the public eye for four years while his 79-year-old brother, a close partner in the 1959 revolution, took the reins of power.

Since bursting back on the scene in July, the elder Castro

has scrupulously avoided mention of domestic issues such as Cuba's economic woes or its fight against corruption — presumably to avoid stepping on Raul Castro's toes. He did the same on Friday, limiting himself

to reminiscing about the past and warning about a nuclear future.

But Fidel's speeches have grown bigger, and he has crept closer and closer to at least looking like the revolutionary leader he once was. While he is no longer president, Fidel remains head of Cuba's Communist party.

At Friday's speech, he was introduced as Cuba's "historic leader" and "commander in chief."

Since taking over, Raul Castro has instituted some limited economic reforms and tried to rid the government of corruption — but his unassuming style and reticence for public speaking are a marked contrast to Fidel, who in his heyday could hold the stage for hours.

After wearing a loose-fitting track suit in several early appearances, Fidel caused a stir by donning an olive-green shirt at a July 24 ceremony outside Havana.

When he addressed Cuba's parliament two weeks later, he was wearing the top half of his military fatigues. On Friday, he looked completely the part of a revolutionary, decked out head-to-toe in his military uniform, with a simple military cap to shield him from the sun.

Talks to form new Dutch coalition collapse

MIKE CORDER.

Associated Press Writer

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Negotiations to form a right-wing Dutch coalition collapsed Friday after anti-Islam lawmaker Geert Wilders walked out of the talks amid dissent over his hardline policies.

The failure after nearly three months of negotiations left the Netherlands in deep political confusion, with no easily apparent way out of the deadlock resulting from elections June 9.

Wilders' walkout followed a rebellion in the Christian Democrats among influential members who said they had deep reservations about working with Wilders' Freedom Party because its hardline anti-Islam policies conflicted with their party's openness toward all religions.

Wilders faces a hate speech trial in October for his criticism of Islam, which he has branded a "fascist ideology." He has advocated a "headscarf tax" on Muslim women who wear modest attire, and a ban on the Quran.

Mark Rutte, leader of the liberal VVD party who was slated to be the next prime minister, acknowledged the talks had reached an impasse.

"I respect his decision, but I don't agree with it," said Rutte. "And I regret too ... that this political cooperation is not possible."

The VVD was negotiating to join with the Christian Democrats in a minority government, with Wilders lending his support without formally joining the coalition or taking seats in the Cabinet.

Wilders said he ended negotiations because he couldn't trust the Christian Democrats. He said three rebels among the Christian Democrats were unwilling to promise to adhere to a governing pact, making further negotiations pointless.

It was unclear what the next step would be, and no further political talks were immediately scheduled.

Rutte already had explored a broad coalition among left-leaning parties, but the sides were too far apart on economic policy.

Wilders said he "deeply regretted" the

breakdown of talks. He said his party, which grew to 24 seats from nine in the 150-seat Parliament, "very much wanted to support a stable coalition of the VVD and CDA."

Wilders said he does not expect his party to play a role in the next government.

"What next? I don't know," he said. "We unfortunately will have to fulfill the role of opposition party."

Rutte said he would recommend to Queen Beatrix that he now write a policy blueprint for the next government and seek parties prepared to work with him to form a coalition.

Job Cohen, leader of the Labor Party that came second in the election, said he was prepared to work with Rutte on a policy document.

"I think the VDD and (Labor) can do it together," he told national broadcaster NOS. "We have our differences, but we need a Cabinet."

Leaders of the main political party will likely visit the queen to tell her what they believe the next step should be.



Mobs attack home of Iranian opposition leader

NASSER KARIMI **Associated Press Writers**

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Pro-government crowds swarmed outside the battered home of a key Iranian opposition leader Friday after militiamen attacked with firebombs and beat a bodyguard unconscious in a brazen message of intimidation and pinpoint pressure on dissent. The assault on Mahdi Karroubi's five-story residence late Thursday — just hours before major state-backed rallies displayed the growing tactics of trying to isolate and harass top opposition figures after relentless crackdowns appear to have driven protesters from the streets.

The 72-year-old Karroubi, a cleric and former parliament speaker, has been the most public protest leader in recent months — and has paid the price with repeated damage to his car and tense confrontations with backers of the Islamic state. But the latest backlash, described by a pro-reform website, was by far the most aggressive.

Mobs of hard-line militiamen — known as Basij — began breaking down the front door of Karroubi's residence before being driven back by warning shots from guards, according to the Sahamnews website, which supports Iran's pro-reform movement.

Karroubi was at home at the time, but was not injured, his son Hossein told The Associated Press.

Media restrictions imposed by Iranian authorities blocked journalists from reaching the site and independently verifying the accounts. A video posted on the Internet by a group backing the opposition showed

smashed windows and graffiti on the walls and door panel of the house, located on a treelined street in north Tehran.

Hossein Karroubi said dozens of hardliners — some on motorbikes — continued to damage the opposition leader's home on Friday and that police were not responding to the scene. Some security cameras outside the building were torn down, he said.

"The reason for attacking my father is the challenge he raised against the centers of power," another son, Taghi Karroubi, told the AP. "The attack was very harsh and we feared they wanted to kill (my father).'

The melee came after nearly a week of progovernment gatherings outside Karroubi's home. The trigger for the assault apparently was to keep him from attending annual pro-Palestinian rallies on Friday and becoming a draw for opposition protesters. Last year, the event turned into street riots after tens of thousands of counter-protests staged marches claiming massive ballot fraud in the June 2009 re-election of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. At the time, the momentum of the opposition rallies seemed formidable. Marchers openly denounced Ahmadinejad and his backers and tangled with Basij vigilantes, a paramilitary force aligned with the powerful Revolutionary Guard.

But authorities gradually began to reclaim the upper hand. The Revolutionary Guard gathered stronger and more mobile forces including club-swinging Basij on motorbikes while authorities conducted arrest sweeps and widely choked off the Internet and mobile phone messaging used to organize the protesters. Internet service was slow or inaccessible in Tehran on Friday.

The opposition has not held any street demonstrations since February and canceled plans for a rally on the anniversary of the election

Security forces, meanwhile, have turned their attention to squeezing Karroubi and others in the opposition vanguard, including Green Movement head Mir Hossein Mousavi and former President Mohammad Khatami.

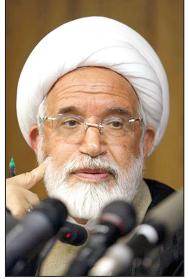
Karroubi's car has been attacked and he has been jostled by angry crowds, including during a visit in June to visit a pro-reform cleric in the holy city of Qom, opposition websites reported.

Khatami — despite his elder statesman role was barred from traveling to Japan in April to attend a conference on dialogue between cultures. Khatami's former vice president and others in his government have been arrested on charges of trying to overthrow the Islamic system.

Mousavi has kept a lower profile recently than Karroubi. But Mousavi's wife, Zahra Rahnavard, was surrounded and mocked last week by a group of hard-liners, according to the Mousavi-backed website Kaleme.

Last week, opposition websites carried a copy of a purported government directive banning all Iranian newspapers and news agencies from mentioning the three pro-reform leaders or showing their pictures.

Mousavi condemned the attack on Karroubi's home, saying it proved the government's "enmity against Israel is an excuse" for attacking opposition figures. "Karroubi and figures like him and other freedom-seekers are the real enemies of authoritarians.'



In this June 9, 2009 file photo, Iranian opposition leader Mahdi Karroubi attends a press conference in Tehran, **Pro-government** Iran. militiamen attacked home of Iranian opposition leader Mahdi Karroubi with homemade bombs and beat one of his bodyguards unconscious Thursday, Sept. 2, 2010, an opposition website reported, in an apparent attempt to keep him from attending the annual state-sponsored rally known as Quds Day, or Jerusalem Day. **Associated Press**

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Aruba_TODAY

UPS cargo plane crashes near

Dubai airport

BRIAN MURPHY
Associated Press Writer
DUBAI, United Arab Emirates
(AP) — A UPS cargo plane
with two crew members on
board crashed shortly after
takeoff Friday outside Dubai,
officials said.

The state news agency WAM, quoting the General Civil Aviation Authority, reported that the "bodies of two pilots" had been found at the scene, but UPS did not confirm that. The plane went down inside an Emirati air base near a busy highway intersection about 10 miles southeast of Dubai's international airport. WAM said the crash occurred in an unpopulated desert area, suggesting there may not have been casualties on the ground. Smoke rose from the crash site, which was shielded from the highway by walls. Migrant laborers from a nearby camp gathered along the roadside to

UPS spokeswoman Kristen Petrella said the Boeing 747-400 — which has a wingspan of 212 feet and length of 232 feet — went down at about 8 p.m. in Dubai (12 p.m. EST). Flight 6 was en route to the UPS hub in Cologne, Germany, she said. Petrella said the plane had two crew

members but the company has not confirmed any casualties.

Two U.S. aviation experts said the plane had taken off and then turned around and was returning to land when the accident took place. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak to the media.

UPS, an Atlanta-based company formally known as United Parcel Service Inc. and the world's largest shipping company, dispatched an investigation team to the scene.

A Dubai-based spokesman for the General Civil Aviation Authority, Ismail al-Baroushi, said an investigation was under way, but it was "too early to speculate" on the cause of the crash. National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Ted Lopatkiewicz also said the U.S. agency will send a team of experts to Dubai to assist with the investigation.

A witness, who refused to give his name, said he was sitting on the balcony of his home when he heard a "big boom." "There was fire and too much smoke," he said.

In October 2009, a Sudanese Boeing 707 cargo plane crashed in the desert outside



Smoke rises from the site of a cargo plane crash in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Friday Sept. 3, 2010. Officials say a UPS cargo plane with two crew members on board has crashed shortly after takeoff outside Dubai. There was no immediate word on casualties

Associated Press

Dubai after taking off from Sharjah airport north of Dubai, killing six crew members. Emirati regulators have banned the plane's Sudanese owner, Azza Transport, from operating in the country.

There are about 300 747 freighters in service, carrying about half the world's air cargo.

UPS planes have been involved in four accidents since 1985, none fatal, according to an aviation safety database. The most recent involved a fire that broke out in the cargo hold of a McDonnell Douglas DC-8 en route from Atlanta to Philadelphia. Smoke was billowing from the plane when it landed, but the three pilots were able to evacuate safely, said the database, maintained the Flight Safety bv Foundation of Alexandria, Va. In 2005, pilot error cause the nose gear of a McDonnell Douglas MD-11F to collapse during a landing in Anchorage,

causing \$10 million in damages to the plane.

Prior to Friday's accident, five major airline accidents have been linked to Dubai Airport since 1973, with no fatalities, according to the database. The most recent was on March 12, 2007, when a Biman Bangladesh Airlines Airbus A310 with 236 passengers and crew members aborted a takeoff. The plane came to rest at the end of the runway with a collapsed nose gear.

7 defendants convicted in Portugal sex abuse trial

BARRY HATTON

Associated Press Writer

LISBON, Portugal (AP) — Seven people have been convicted of child sex abuse in Portugal in a major trial that lasted nearly six years and shocked the country.

The six men and one woman were found guilty Friday of crimes including sexually abusing minors and adolescents, raping children and running a pedophile ring at a state-run children's home in Lisbon during the 1990s. The six men were handed jail sentences of between six and 18 years for sexual abuse. The woman, whose house was used by the ring, was not given a custodial sentence because of a 2007 change in the law, the judge said in the televised ruling without elaborating.

The longest sentence was given to a 53-year-old former driver at the home, Carlos Silvino, who confessed to more than 600 crimes and gave evidence against the other defendants.

Others sent to prison were Carlos Cruz, a released next week.

popular television presenter with a threedecade career in show business, who will serve seven years; and Jorge Ritto, a decorated career diplomat and former UNESCO ambassador, who was given six years, eight months in jail.

Their lawyers said they would consider an appeal. Chief prosecutor Miguel Matias said the victims were pleased with the outcome. The victims — now aged between 16 and 22 — gave chilling testimony during the trial and identified their alleged abusers by pointing to them across the courtroom. Bernardo Teixeira, one of the victims, said he felt vindicated. "The court recognized that we were telling the truth," he said. "It's a happy ending for us. The pedophiles are going to jail." The three judges at the trial read out a summarized version of the court's decisions, but they did not refer to dozens of other alleged crimes they found to be unproven. The full ruling, which reportedly runs to almost 2,000 pages, is due to be



Powerful 7.1 quake hits New Zealand's South Island

RAY LILLEY
Associated Press Writer
WELLINGTON, New
Zealand (AP) — A powerful
7.1-magnitude earthquake
struck much of New Zealand's
South Island early Saturday and
caused widespread damage, but
there were just two reports of
serious injuries. Looters broke
into some damaged shops in
Christchurch, police said.

The quake, which hit 19 miles west of the southern city of Christchurch according to the state geological agency GNS Science, shook a wide area, with some residents saying buildings had collapsed and power was severed. No tsunami alert was issued.

GNS Science initially reported the quake as magnitude 7.4, but later downgraded it after re-examining quake records. The U.S. Geological Survey, in America, measured the quake at 7.0.

Christchurch Mayor Bob Parker declared a state of emergency four hours after the quake rocked the region, warning people that continuing aftershocks could cause masonry to fall from damaged buildings.

The emergency meant parts of the city would be closed off and some buildings closed as unsafe, he said.

Minister of Civil Defence John Carter said a state of civil emergency was declared as the quake was "a significant disaster," and army troops were on standby to assist.

Parker said the "sharp, vicious earthquake has caused significant damage in parts of the city ... with walls collapsed that have fallen into the streets." Chimneys and walls had fallen from older buildings, with roads blocked, traffic lights out and power, gas and water supplies disrupted, he said.

"The fronts of at least five buildings in the central city have collapsed and rubble is strewn across many roads," Christchurch resident Angela Morgan told The Associated Press.

"Roads have subsided where water mains have broken and a lot of people evacuated in panic from seaside areas for fear of a tsunami," she said, adding that "there is quite significant damage, really, with reports that some people were trapped

in damaged houses."

Christchurch Hospital said it had treated two men with serious injuries and a number of people with minor injuries.

One was hit by a falling chimney and was in serious condition in intensive care, while a second was badly cut by glass, hospital spokeswoman Michele Hider said.

Christchurch police reported road damage in parts of the city of 400,000 people, with a series of sharp aftershocks rocking the area. Police officers cordoned off some streets where rubble was strewn about. Video showed parked cars crushed by heaps of fallen bricks, and buckled roads.

"There is considerable damage in the central city and we've also had reports of looting, just shop windows broken and easy picking of displays," Police Inspector Mike Coleman told New Zealand's National Radio. Police Inspector Alf Stewart told the radio that some people had been arrested for looting.

"We have some reports of people smashing (storefront) windows and trying to grab some property that is not theirs ... we've got police on the streets and we're dealing with that," he said.

Suburban dweller Mark O'Connell said his house was full of smashed glass, food tossed from shelves, with sets of drawers, TVs and computers tipped over.

"She was a beauty, we were thrown from wall to wall as we tried to escape down the stairs to get to safety," he told the AP. "It was pitch black (with the power cut) and we walked through smashed glass everywhere on the floor."

The quake hit at 4:35 a.m. shaking thousands of residents awake, New Zealand's National Radio reported.

Civil defense agency spokesman David Millar said at least six bridges in the region had been badly damaged, while the historic Empire hotel in the port town of Lyttelton was "very unstable" and in danger of collapse. Roads, shops and other buildings in rural towns around Christchurch had also suffered damage, with some shop fronts knocked down in the jolt.

Inspector Coleman said residents of the city's low-



People stand outside a building damaged by a 7.4-magnitude earthquake in central Christchurch, New Zealand, early Saturday, Sept. 4, 2010. A powerful 7.4-magnitude earthquake struck much of New Zealand's South Island early Saturday. No tsunami alert was issued and there were no reports of injuries, but looters broke into some damaged shops in Christchurch, police said. Associated Press

lying eastern suburbs had been advised to be ready to evacuate their properties, after power, gas, sewerage and water systems were cut by the quake. Resident Colleen Simpson said panicked residents ran into the street in their pajamas. Some buildings had collapsed, there was no power, and the mobile telephone network had failed.

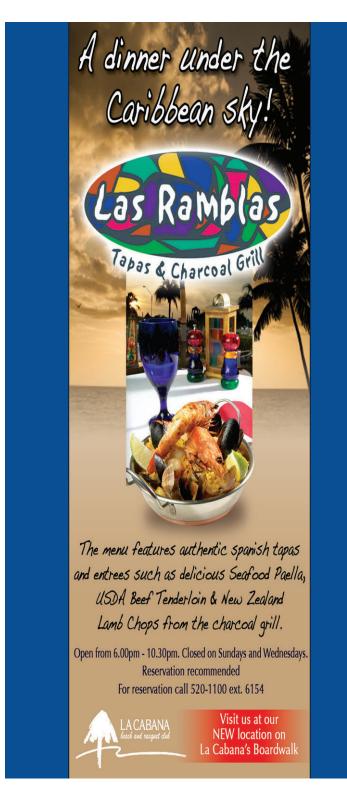
"Oh my God. There is a row of shops completely demolished right in front of me," Simpson told the Stuff news Web site.

Another person from Christchurch, Kevin O'Hanlon, said the jolt was extremely powerful.

"I was awake to go to work and then just heard this massive noise and 'boom,' it was like the house got hit. It just started shaking. I've never felt anything like it," he told the news Web site.

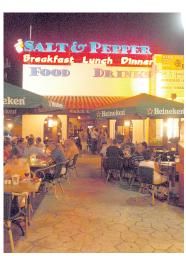
Christchurch International Airport was closed after the quake as a precaution, as experts prepared to check the runways and terminal buildings, a spokesman said.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said "no destructive widespread tsunami threat existed, based on historical earthquake and tsunami data." New Zealand sits above an area of the Earth's crust where two tectonic plates collide. The country records more than 14,000 earthquakes a year — but only about 150 are felt by residents. Fewer than 10 a year do any damage.





lounges late night kitchen



PALM BEACH - Long day at the beach, sunset with a cocktail, barefooted walk back to your hotel, a little tipsy, pass out in your room and wake up... at 11 pm!! Hunger starts taking over and you can't sleep anymore.

All restaurants closed, no more buffets in the hotel and not even one macadamia nut left in your mini bar. Salt & Pepper solved this problem and now serves food till 12:30 in the morning! Whether you feel like having a little bite like Cajun Wings or Mozzarella Sticks or fight that hunger with a huge Mixed Grill or Angus Burger, you should come to Salt & Pepper. Not only because the kitchen is still open but also because the atmosphere and ambiance is unique. Outside seating till 1 am or squeeze in at the cozy bar, yes you may eat at the bar to. The friendly staff will make you feel at home and the full bar gets you in the mood again. The night is still young, you just had dinner! Salt & Pepper is located in the high rise, in front Occidental Grand.

Salt & Pepper | Divi Impact set to make a difference on the island











EAGLE BEACH - Managing Director

Alex Nieuwmeyer reports that during

planning sessions designed to improve the

quality of external and internal community

service at Divi's five resort properties on

Aruba, the decision to set up a not-for-profit

foundation was born. The foundation funds

will be generated via voluntary employee

salary deductions, which will be matched

by Divi Resort Corporation, thus creating a

considerable amount of money set aside to

serve the needs of the Divi community and

the island's community.

Divi IMPACT, Improving Motivating and living for all. At a recent informal gathering at Divi Links

learning Center, Founders, Board members and Committee Members were introduced. IMPACT Founders, Carol Jansen, Asst. General Manager of Divi & Dutch Village and Maria Esguerra, Director of Human Resources

Divi Resorts on Aruba, presented the board members with Carol Jansen, as President, Ana Arends, Guest Relations Manager, as Vice President, Sharenda Clarinda, Human Resources Coordinator as Secretary and Maria Esguerra, as interim Treasurer. Making decisions about the designation of IMPACT funds, committee members Francis Ridderstap, representing Divi Aruba Beach Resort, Lillian Maduro representing Phoenix Aruba Beach Resort, Erik van den Hengel, representing Divi Golf Aruba N.V.,

Providing the Aruban Community Together, will encourage leadership, owners, guests, business partners and employees to donate time, money and resources to help the community, resulting in a higher standard of



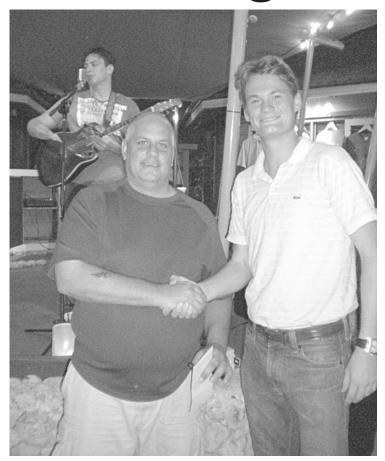
Arawak Food & Wine Festival tonight!



PALM BEACH - Arawak Garden presents its second Food & Wine Festival on Saturday, September 4th in repetition of the successful event at the end of July. The restaurants and shops are ready for you: you just need to hop on a virtual plane and the world is your oyster! For instance, take the Flight to Spain at Salt & Pepper Restaurant.

You order three tapas of your choice and pay for two. Another plane takes you to Argentina at Tango Restaurant: There you can eat a fantastic BBQ dinner from Tango, renowned for its excellent cuts of meat; try them at this feast.

But you have not seen it all: the Flight to New Zealand entails a special adventure at Fishes & More. This popular restaurant at Arawak Garden offers a great three-course menu. Burger King splurges with a free SUNDAE and a Twilight Eclipse poster with every King-



size Value Meal and topping it all off with a Flight to France is Casa Tua, where a Pizza Orientale is next to none. Next door Sopranos Piano Bar is surfing along: it offers special wines and a live cigar roller.

The Food & Wine Festival at Arawak Garden starts at 7 pm; entrance is free. The event is sponsored by Romar Trading, Compra, Pepia Est and Aruba Wine And Dine. Arawak Garden is located in the high rise area across from the Occidental Resort.

The 80's edition.

Zissles presents Saturday Night Fever,

PASEO HERENCIA - This weekend Zissles will, for the first time, host Saturday Night Fever The 80's Edition. A brand new concept in which only the best songs from the 80's will be played by DJ's, Live band and other Live performers. All this musical strength is completed with a theme styled venue to make sure everyone goes back into the 80's.

With no one less then DJ Pitufo and DJ Edson the Mix Master on the turntables all guest can be sure that this event will take off. Besides two DJ's also live performances will rock Zissles Nightclub. The band Joyride, led by lead-singer Dave puts on an energizing and floor filling performance. His performances at Bugaloe always make the crowd scream for more and dance the night away. For this occasion he will team up with an European singer Gitty Pregers who is known for her powerful sound. They will surely put on a real show this Saturday.

Zissles is aiming at bringing more than just music to a night out. Just music people can get everywhere while at Zissles it has to be a complete experience keeping guests entertained all night. This includes decoration, live entertainment and the right staff and service level. Tickets are available at the door for AWG 15, doors open 10 PM, minimum age: 21+.

Zissles Nightclub is a new venue located at Paseo Herencia Shopping and Entertainment. 6 days a week, from Sunday till Friday, guests can enjoy a professional dinnershow. Friday and Saturday's it turns into a sizzling club which is open till 04 AM. Friday is the official clubbing night while Saturday will bring different events and themed nights every week as well as international artists, DJ's and new concepts.



Brand Ambassador Joe Cabassa graduates local Absolut specialists

PALM BEACH -- Ludwig G. Estrada, of Pepia Est N.V. reports that 90 attendees enjoyed topnotch instruction when brand ambassador Joe Cabassa, stopped in Aruba for a day, to conduct an official Absolut vodka training.

Pepia Est, the distributor for Absolut Vodka on the island invited a great number of local professional to assist at the Brand Educational Opportunity taking place this week at the Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort, with a full morning session and a packed afternoon class. Joe Cabassa, a world class Spirits Expert and a Master Bartender, is seen here in

Joe Cabassa has a true

action, imparting his vast

to

Aruba's

knowledge

master-mixers.



passion for spirits, beverages and the art of Mixology. He is recognized by his peers in the industry as a Spirits Expert and a Master Bartender, true to his motto: "Educate with motivation, flair and enthusiasm."

As a matter of fact, Cabassa has been the brand ambassador for the past 13 years, teaching bar managers, bartenders, brand managers, sales teams, and consumers in over 70 cities in 33 countries around the world.





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In light of JetBlue's 10th anniversary

The CEO of Aruba's 2nd largest carrier, Mr. **Dave Barger visits the airport**

ORANJESTAD – Aruba Airport Authority N.V. was delighted to welcome JetBlue's CEO Dave Barger yesterday. Mr. Barger's visit was to mark the company's 10th year anniversary with a personal visit to each station by the CEO. Upon arrival Mr. Barger was greeted by AAA's and JetBlue's local crew. After the warm welcome where the Management Team and the JetBlue crew surprised Mr. Barger by wearing

specially made T-shirts congratulating the airline with its 10th anniversary and the fact that JetBlue is currently Aruba's 2nd largest carrier by jetting 12% of our passenger share from the USA to Aruba. Mr. Barger held a so called town hall meeting with the local JetBlue crew in the airport's VIP-Room which was especially decorated for the occasion.

JetBlue Airways started operations on February



2000, with service Buffalo and Lauderdale. Six years and many successful routes later, JetBlue launched daily service to Aruba on September 15, 2006. A few short weeks from marking its 4th anniversary in Aruba, JetBlue has grown capacity to double daily service

during most of the year from JFK and launched additional non stop service from Boston to Aruba on June 30, 2007.

AAA congratulates JetBlue with their 10 year anniversary and forward to the continuation of a strong and successful relationship.

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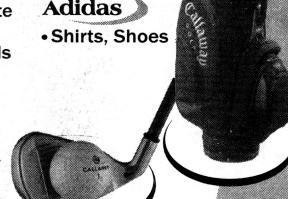
- Iron
- R7 / R5 Drivers
- Utilities woods

Wilson

- Men Set
- Lady set
- Golf travel cover
- Pro putt
- Gloves
- Ball

Ping · Bag

- Driver
- Iron



Casa Matias Vondellaan z/n - Tel. 5**82-1166**



During a visit by CHTA Director General and CEO Alec Sanguinetti

AHATA provides feedback on tourism industry's most important issues

ORANJESTAD – AHATA recently welcomed a visit by Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) Director General and CEO Alec Sanguinetti, along with CHTA Fifth Vice President Willem Jonckheer, who visited Aruba in order to reaffirm ties and discuss shared tourism industry concerns. During the visit, separate meetings were held with the AHATA Board of Directors, the Minister of Tourism Otmar Oduber and with AHATA members, and at each meeting

Mr. Sanguinetti emphasized an identical message stressing the importance of tourism and the need for its effective management through cooperative efforts.

During a luncheon, held at Divi's Windows on Aruba, with the AHATA Board of Directors, Mr. Sanguinetti introduced CHTA's "Did You Know?" campaign, which brings to the forefront information demonstrating the importance of tourism, the direct positive tie to the economic health of island nations and what governments can do to help



AHATA Board members met with CHTA Director General Director General and CEO Alec Sanguinetti and CHTA Fifth Vice President Willem Jonckheer.

Joel & April Schwarts honored at the Marriott Ocean Club Resort



PALM BEACH - Recently at the Marriott Ocean Club Resort vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Ambassador of goodwill title.

The recent honoring were effected by the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at the Marriott Ocean Club Resort, they call their home away from home. The following guests were honored as Distinguished Visitors after visiting Aruba for 19 years: Joel & April Schwarts from Northvale NJ USA. Mrs. April commended that they dated back in 1991 and then married after a few months and had been coming to Aruba since.

Pictured: ATA Rep. Ricardo Croes together with Joel & April and also Gail from the Marriott Ocean Club Resort.



protect the industry and thus improve the quality of life of its populace.

Mr. Sanguinetti sees solutions in working together, not only one Caribbean island with another, but the industry hand in hand with government. "The fact is that the industry in the Caribbean was in trouble even before the most recent economic crisis," he pointed out frankly. He foresees success in governments enabling the industry through incentives, as well as in participation in regional initiatives, with ideas including a Caribbean regional marketing fund.

He confirmed the regional trend of falling room rates, a trend which includes Aruba and which shows substantially steeper declines in other Caribbean and countries, expressed concern that this would lead to the inevitable shuttering of some businesses. It is with this in mind that the CHTA head is traveling the region, meeting with government officials in order to educate and emphasize the true nature of the current situation. Previous to his visit to Aruba, Mr. Sanguinetti was in Curação and Bonaire, and he will make additional trips to islands including Grenada, Barbados, St. Kitts, St. Lucia and Trinidad in the very near future.

Accompanied by AHATA President and CEO James Hepple, the CHTA Director General also held a constructive and positive meeting with the Minister of Tourism Otmar Oduber to discuss general concerns for the region as well as points specific to Aruba, in particular the rising costs of doing business, as well as issues encompassing airlift, beach management and safety.



Issues important to the tourism industry were discussed in frank conversation during a luncheon at Divi's Windows on Aruba.



Director General and CEO Alec Sanguinetti, center, with AHATA BOD Chairperson Alex Alex Nieuwmeijer, L, and AHATA President and CEO James Hepple.

Mr. Hepple, whose past experience in various key posts in the Caribbean affords additional insight as Aruba faces its current challenges, goes on to note, "We must concentrate on what we are good at, which is tourism, and commit ourselves to continued open dialogue between the government and the industry to reach mutually-beneficial goals." Mr. Sanguinetti proposes further sound advice. "We must use

these difficult times to retool our industry so that we become more competitive and offer better value across the board. Value is the key word," he summarizes.

The results from the recent meetings proved positive, with AHATA to continue to work together regionally with CHTA, and locally with the government and industry partners for the benefit of the tourism industry and the continued economic well-being of Aruba.



At Milano's in South Beach Center

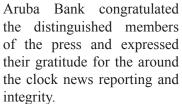
ARUBA BANK honors members of the Press











The theme of the party this year was "Dancing with the Press" and the winners won a variety of great prizes. Yentil Liew of ATB was the overall winner with the grand prize of a weekend stay at the Holiday Inn Aruba Beach Resort.

The photos show the other side of the camera and keyboards enjoying their special day of the year dedicated to them.

Thank you to Aruba Bank for the wonderful evening from Aruba Today and Bon Dia Aruba.

















The best Seafood is at Fishes & More

PALM BEACH – Fishes & More Restaurant in the Arawak Gardens in Palm Beach has been a great success since day one. It is said once you taste their fishes, you will always come back for more. Now you can enjoy their completely new renovated dining atmosphere.

Owners Jeroen Kuling & Hans

Heijink work exceptionally hard to ensure the restaurant is at its best for everyone to enjoy. The courteous and friendly staff will pamper you from 4 pm till 11pm, every day of the week.

Come in early for the daily fresh catches, such as red snapper, grouper, mahi mahi, wahoo and tuna. Check with the server to find out about the Catch of the day. The chef will be more than happy to prepare your fish the way you like it best: grilled, deepfried, pan-fried or the chef's choice. Every Wednesday, seafood specials are prepared depending on what the Fishermen bring in fresh out of the water that afternoon. Fishes and More is for everyone. For those who like to try something different, for those who can't shake the seafood addiction, for those who want to eat a great piece of veal, or pasta, everyone is more than welcome.

Arawak Gardens is right across from the hotels. We invite you to take a little walk to a grand dinner!





For more information or reservations call 586-3659







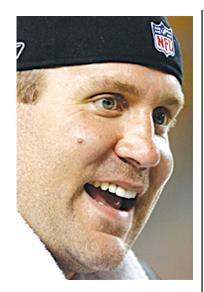
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On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Saturday, September 4, 2010



Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger stands on the sidelines at the end of the first quarter against the Carolina Panthers during NFL preseason football game action in Pittsburgh, Thursday, Sept. 2, 2010. Roethlisberger played for most of the first quarter in the Steelers' 19-3 win.

Associated Press

Roethlisberger suspension reduced to four games

BARRY WILNER
AP Pro Football Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Ben
Roethlisberger's suspension
has been reduced from
six games to four by NFL
Commissioner Roger
Goodell.

The Pittsburgh Steelers' star quarterback met with Goodell early Friday and was told he could return on Oct. 17 against Cleveland.

Roethlisberger was suspended in April for violating the league's personal conduct policy, but Goodell said at the time he would review Roethlisberger's behavior over the next few months. Goodell was satisfied that the player has followed the league's guidelines and stayed out of trouble.

Continued on page 8



Johnson, Day atop leaderboard in Boston

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

NORTON, Massachussets (AP) — Zach Johnson and Jason Day beat the weather to claim a share of the lead Friday at the Deutsche Bank Championship.

Tiger Woods wasn't so lucky, and faces missing the cut.

Johnson strengthened his Ryder Cup case Friday by rolling in putts from everywhere in easy scoring conditions prior to the arrival of the fringes of Hurricane Earl, giving him an 8-under 63 and a share of the lead with Day.

Woods had two bogeys in four holes when the first patch of rain arrived, and it didn't get much better. He had two more bogeys and was in last place until he fought back for a 72, leaving him three shots below the projected cut. If he doesn't make the cut Saturday, Woods will not advance to defend his title next week outside Chicago.

"I'm going to have to shoot something good tomorrow, hopefully move up a little bit," Woods said. "Get off to a better start than I did today."

Scoring was so ideal that Johnson and Day had a 63 and still only had a one-shot lead — over eight players. That group included Ryder Cup hopeful Ryan Palmer, Rory McIlroy and Geoff Ogilvy, who had the best score of anyone in the afternoon. That they finished the first round was a bonus considering the Earl forecast. More surprising was that the wind never arrived, and late starters only had to cope with the nuisance of an occasional shower.

Continued on next page



Saturday, September 4, 2010 SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

Boston

Continued from front page

"It had the potential to be the most lopsided draw in history," Ogilvy said. "It was way better than we assumed it was going to be."

The outer bands of Earl began arriving right after Johnson and Day finished. But after a 1½-hour rain delay, there was little more than a breeze along with a few bursts of rain, none long enough that Woods ever put on a rain jacket.

Woods' problem was putting his tee shots into the short grass — he missed eight of 14 fairways — and not converting enough putts. He officially entered the BMW Championship next week, a formality, and now has to finish inside the top 70 in the FedEx Cup standings. Woods started the week in 65th place. Phil Mickelson, with his 10th chance to replace Woods at No. 1 in the world, opened with a 69.

Getting to the third round of the playoffs is not an issue

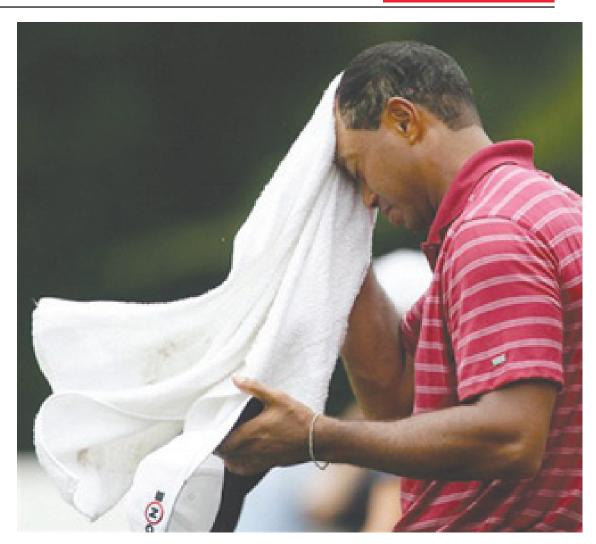
for Johnson. His hopes this week start with the Ryder Cup, knowing that Corey Pavin will announce his four captain's picks on Tuesday in New York.

Most players believe Johnson is in good shape to get one of the picks, and opening with a 63 certainly didn't hurt.

"It would be an honor, and I want to get on that team very, very bad," Johnson said. "But you can justify the case for a number of guys. I'm not concerned about it. I'm going to let things fall where they fall. I feel like if I keep performing decent, then I'll have a pretty good chance."

Day, the 36-hole leader last week at The Barclays, shot 30 on the back nine.

Defending champion Steve Stricker, who has an outside shot to go to No. 1 in the world this week, was in the group at 65. Matt Kuchar, who won last week at The Barclays and leads the FedEx Cup standings, was in the group at 66.



Tiger Woods wipes his face with a towel on the seventh hole during the first round at the Deutsche Bank Championship golf tournament at TPC Boston, in Norton, Mass., Friday, Sept. 3, 2010.

Associated Press



In this April 6, 2010, file photo, New Jersey Devils left wing Ilya Kovalchuk skates against the Atlanta Thrashers during the first period of an NHL hockey game at Philips Arena in Atlanta. Associated Press

NHL signs off on Kovalchuk's second deal with Devils

TOM CANAVAN, AP Sports Writer

NEWARK, New Jersey (AP) — The NHL has signed off on Ilya Kovalchuk's latest contract with the New Jersey Devils.

Five weeks after rejecting the Russian's landmark 17-year, \$102 million contract with the Devils, the league approved a revised 15-year, \$100 million deal on Friday after reaching an agreement with the NHL Players Association on an amendment covering long-term contracts.

Jay Grossman, Kovalchuk's agent, confirmed the agreement in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

The NHL had rejected the Devils' initial offer because it violated the league's salary cap. An arbiter upheld that decision after the union filed a grievance.

With 338 goals and 304 assists in 642 career games, Kovalchuk was the biggest prize on the NHL free agent market this season. The 27-year-old left wing had 41 goals and 44 assists in 2009-10, a season he split between Atlanta and the Devils, who acquired him in a multi-player deal in February.

The new deal will put a \$6.67 million annual hit on the Devils' salary cap and put the team roughly \$3 million over the league limit (\$59.4 million) with only 21 players under contract,

two under the league limit.

With a full roster, Devils president and general manager Lou Lamoriello probably is going to have to clear about \$5 million in cap space before the season starts on Oct. 8.

While the annual salary breakdown for the deal was not immediately available, Kovalchuk will earn significantly more money in the final five years.

Arbitrator Richard Bloch had rejected the first contract because Kovalchuk was slated to earn only \$550,000 in each of the last five seasons. It would have run through the 2026-27 season, when Kovalchuk will be 44.

The 15-year deal matches the length of one signed by New York Islanders goalie Rick DiPietro.

Kovalchuk went on the free agent market on July 1. He narrowed his final choices to the Los Angeles Kings, New York Islanders, the Devils and SKA St. Petersburg of Russia's Kontinental Hockey League before agreeing to stay in New Jersey, at least until the league objected and extended his job search for about six weeks.

Kovalchuk was supposed to be the last link in New Jersey's push for a fourth Stanley Cup title since 1995. However, he could not prevent the team from being eliminated in the first round of the playoffs by Philadelphia.



Morgan gets 8 games for Nats-Marlins brawl

By JOSEPH WHITE AP Sports Writer

Nyjer Morgan's wild week has landed him an eightgame suspension, one of nine punishments handed out Friday by Major League Baseball following a brawl between Washington Nationals and Florida Marlins. MLB suspended Nationals outfielder Morgan and fined him an undisclosed amount for three separate incidents over the past week. Friday's penalty is in addition to a seven-game suspension he received Aug. 25 that is currently under appeal.

Six players, both managers and a coach were cited after a review of Wednesday night's odd and ugly game in Miami, won 16-10 by the Marlins. Florida pitcher Chris Volstad was suspended for six games, pitcher Alex Sanabia for five, first baseman Gaby Sanchez for three, and manager Edwin Rodriguez for one. Volstad and Rodriguez also were fined, as was pitcher Jose Veras.

All the Marlins players who were issued suspensions plan to appeal. Same for the Nationals.

"Whether I believe it's fair or not doesn't really matter," Sanchez said. "You're going to get punished, especially when a brawl like that happens."

For Washington, pitcher Doug Slaten and third base coach Pat Listach were suspended for three games, and manager Jim Riggleman for two games. Riggleman and Listach also were fined.

"I'm a little surprised at (the suspensions and fines) overall," Riggleman said. "I thought they were a little heavy, certainly heavier than I expected. However, I think

Major League Baseball is also sending out a message with these suspensions and especially with the fines, and that's that it doesn't want bench-clearing brawls in this sport."

All but two of the suspensions were scheduled to begin Friday. Sanabia's suspension was set to begin Wednesday in order to avoid overlapping with fellow pitcher Volstad's, and Listach's suspension is scheduled to begin Sunday to avoid overlapping with Riggleman's.

Rodriguez was serving his suspension Friday, with bench coach Brandon Hyde tabbed to manage Florida against Atlanta. Rodriguez said Volstad would next start on Tuesday, and Sanchez didn't expect the appeals to be heard until the Marlins — get this — visit Washington next weekend.

But the focus is overwhelmingly on Morgan. His current spate of notoriety began Aug. 21, when he threw a ball at a fan in the stands in Philadelphia. The appeal of his seven-game suspension for that misdeed is scheduled to be heard Tuesday.

"The perception of him, the last month or so, is not a good one," Marlins outfielder Logan Morrison said.

Then, last Saturday, Morgan ran over St. Louis Cardinals catcher Bryan Anderson in the bottom of the eighth inning at Nationals Park, even though Anderson didn't have the ball. Morgan neglected to touch home plate in the process and was called out. Riggleman benched Morgan the next day for what the manager called "unprofessional" play, and Morgan publicly disagreed



Washington Nationals' Nyjer Morgan, center, is led off the field after a brawl during the sixth inning of a baseball game against the Florida Marlins, Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2010, in Miami.

On Tuesday, Morgan ran over another catcher, this time Florida's Brett Hayes, while attempting to score from second on a ground ball in the 10th inning. Hayes held onto

with Riggleman's decision.

10th inning. Hayes held onto the ball to tag Morgan out, but the catcher separated his left shoulder on the play.

The Nationals were expecting retaliation on Wednesday, and it came. Volstad hit Morgan with a pitch in the fourth inning, but Morgan promptly answered by stealing second and third, even though the Nationals were trailing 14-3. Volstad then threw his first pitch of the sixth behind Morgan, setting off a fight. Morgan charged the mound took a swing at Volstad, but Sanchez quickly arrived on the scene and clotheslined Morgan, knocking off Morgan's batting helmet and sending him to the ground.

Morgan, Volstad, Rodriguez

and Veras were ejected. Morgan was loudly booed when he raised his arms to egg on the crowd as he was escorted off the field.

"I can't look back at it now and say I would do anything different," Sanchez said. "I wouldn't have. I'm out there trying to protect my pitcher." Later in the game, Slaten and Riggleman were ejected after Sanchez was hit with a pitch with two outs in the seventh. After the game, Riggleman backed Morran, saving it was

backed Morgan, saying it was OK for the Marlins to throw at the outfielder once but not twice. Riggleman also had no problem with Morgan, who declined comment Friday, stealing the two bases.

On Friday, the manager said he hopes Morgan's reputation isn't damaged by all attention from MLB.

"I believe they are three separate incidents that just happened to occur close together," Riggleman said. "He has no history of problems in any of those three cities or against those three teams."

Nationals general manager Mike Rizzo said some of Morgan's actions have given him pause but "he's a young, aggressive player and sometimes things like that happen."

MLB's statement Friday said Morgan was being suspended for "unnecessarily" running over Anderson on Saturday, for "inappropriate comments" directed toward the fans on Tuesday, and for charging the mound and making inappropriate gestures and comments toward the fans on Wednesday.

Riggleman was also given an additional fine by Frank Robinson, senior vice president of major league operations, for "inappropriate comments regarding the incident."

AL Roundup

Sabathia steers Yankees past A's



New York Yankees' Curtis Granderson watches his two-run double during the second inning of a baseball game against the Toronto Blue Jays, Friday, Sept. 3, 2010, at Yankee Stadium in New York. The Yankees won 7-3. **Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — New York pitcher C.C. Sabathia gave up only one hit over

eight innings to earn his major league-leading 19th win, and steer the Yankees to a 5-0 win in the American League on Thursday.

Sabathia (19-5) gave up a single leading off the second, but thereafter gave the A's nothing as New York completed a four-game sweep and opened a 1-1/2 game lead atop the AL standings.

Curtis Granderson hit a solo homer and a two-run shot as a replacement for Nick Swisher, who left after one inning because of a stiff knee.

Oakland starter Dallas Braden (9-10) left in the sixth inning with heat-related cramps, when trailing 1-0.

Tigers 10, Twins 9, 13 innings In Minneapolis, Gerald Laird hit a solo home run in the 13th inning to lift Detroit over Minnesota.

Laird, who entered the game in the 11th inning, homered off Nick Blackburn (8-9). Detroit's Jose Valverde (2-3)

pitched a career-high three innings of relief.

The Twins led 7-3 going into the eighth and 9-8 in the ninth only to let both leads slip away. Their AL Central lead over the White Sox was cut to 3-1/2 games.

The Tigers left 15 runners on base and the Twins 10 in a game full of missed opportunities at the plate and blunders in the field.

Red Sox 6, Orioles 4

In Baltimore, Adrian Beltre homered to spark a five-run second inning as Boston downed Baltimore.

The Red Sox moved within 6-1/2 games of Tampa Bay in the AL wild-card race.

After missing his previous start with a sore back, Boston pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka (9-4) gave up four runs in 5 2-3 innings and took the win. Baltimore starter Brad Bergesen (6-10) gave up five career-high five walks in 5 1-3 innings.

Indians 6, Mariners 3

In Seattle, Shin-Soo Choo drove in five runs with a basesloaded double and a two-run home run to boost Cleveland to victory over Seattle.

Choo hit a fastball from Doug Fister (4-11) against the right-center-field wall in the Indians' four-run sixth to score all three runners without a throw

He added his two-run shot in the ninth to match his seasonhigh for RBIs. Choo leads Cleveland in home runs (16) and RBIs (68).

Indians starter Josh Tomlin (3-3) lasted six innings, allowing three runs and no walks.

In other AL it was N.Y. Yankees 5, Oakland 0; Boston 6, Baltimore 4; Detroit 10, Minnesota 9, 13 innings; and Cleveland 6, Seattle 3.

NL Roundup

Wright, Santana lead Mets' 4-2 victory over Braves

ATLANTA (AP) — David Wright runs and hit a grand slam to cap a ninehomered, Johan Santana won for the first time in four starts and New York snapped Atlanta's five-game winning streak with a 4-2 victory Thursday night.

The Mets, who had dropped three straight, broke a 13-game stretch in which they scored three runs or less against the NL East-leading Braves.

Tim Hudson (15-6) lost for the first time in nine starts after allowing eight hits and four runs — three earned with one walk and four strikeouts in seven innings.

Santana (11-9) left after five innings, his shortest outing in 23 starts, throwing 65 pitches. The Mets announced that the left-hander had a strained pectoral muscle and was listed as day-to-day. Phillies 12, Rockies 11

At Denver, Chase Utley drove in six

run seventh inning as Philadelphia rallied to beat Colorado.

Utley's six RBIs tied a career high and came after Ryan Howard and Jayson Werth also went deep during the big inning in which the Phillies had nine

Antonio Bastardo (1-0) benefited from the Phillies' big inning, getting the win despite allowing a run and four hits in one inning of relief. Brad Lidge got the last three outs for his 19th save but not before giving up a run.

Colorado had 19 hits.

Carlos Gonzalez hit his 31st homer and Chris Iannetta and Dexter Fowler also homered as the Rockies built a 7-3 lead heading into the seventh.

In other NL games it was N.Y. Mets 4, Atlanta 2; and Philadelphia 12, Colorado 11.



New York Mets starter Johan Santana delivers to the Atlanta Braves during the second inning of a baseball game Thursday, Sept. 2, 2010, at Turner Field in Atlanta.

Associated Press



WADA reports breakthrough in gene doping tests

STEPHEN WILSON **AP Sports Writer**

LONDON (AP) Two groups of scientists have developed tests for gene doping in what the World Anti-Doping Agency hailed Friday as a major breakthrough in fighting the next frontier in cheating in sports.

Scientists in Germany said they have come up with a blood test that can provide "conclusive proof" of gene doping, even going back as far as 56 days from when the doping took place.

And a U.S.-French research team has devised its own method for detecting genetic doping in muscles.

The discoveries raise the possibility that a valid gene-doping test can be implemented across the sports world by the 2012 London Olympics.

"This is a really significant and major breakthrough," WADA director general David Howman told The Associated on Friday in a telephone interview. "This is a project we've been engaged

in since 2002. Now we've reached the situation where we're pretty certain that it can be detected."

Gene doping is the practice of using genetic engineering to artificially enhance athletic performance. It is a spinoff of gene therapy, which alters a person's DNA to fight disease. The method is banned by WADA and the International Olympic Committee.

WADA funded \$2 million in research projects to devise reliable tests, which have taken about four years to develop. Researchers said the tests can detect gene doping directly through blood samples.

"It's not through markers, it's through actual detection," Howman said. "There's a significant difference there. Using the marker method is more a probability approach, whereas the method these researchers have come up with is stone cold dead, 100 percent."

Howman said the tests must still go through a scientific validation process but should

be implemented "within two vears."

Asked whether they would be ready in time for the London Olympics, he said, "It's certainly possible."

In any case, samples will be stored so they can retested later, Howman said.

While experts say they don't believe gene doping is being abused yet by athletes, they suspect it's only a matter of time

Howman said WADA has information that some hospitals around the world are offering genetic transfers to patients.

"I think we've had sufficient anecdotal information to say it's happening, but whether it's happening across the world of sport is another issue," he said.

Germany, scientists at Tuebingen and Mainz universities said they found a "relatively low-cost method" for detecting gene doping through conventional blood samples. They said it had previously been thought that gene doping could only be detected through costly indirect molecular tests.

The findings were published in the online edition of the scientific journal "Gene Therapy" on Thursday.

The study said the test provides clear "yes or no answers" on whether DNA in blood samples has been RadioShack

This July 31, 2010, file photo shows Lance Armstrong during the official presentation of the Tour de France cycling teams in Rotterdam, Netherlands. After hounding home-run king Barry Bonds for years and wringing a confession from Olympic sprinter Marion Jones, federasl agent Jeff Novitzky's latest target is seven-time Tour de France champion Lance Armstrong. **Associated Press**

transferred into the body to create performance-enhancing substances such as the endurance-boosting hormone

"The body of a genedoped athlete produces the performance-enhancing hormones itself without having to introduce any foreign substances to the body," Prof. Perikles Simon Gutenberg Johannes University in Mainz said. "Over time, the body becomes its own doping supplier."

Foreign genetic material was inserted into the muscles of laboratory mice, triggering excess production of a hormone that creates new blood vessels. Two months later, researchers could still differentiate between the mice that underwent gene doping and those that didn't.

The detection method was

then backed up in tests on 327 blood samples taken from professional and recreational athletes, the researchers said. "At the very least, the risk of being discovered months after

the gene transfer has taken place should deter even the most daring dopers," Simon said.

Meanwhile, a separate study by scientists from the University of Florida and Nantes University in France was reported in "Molecular Therapy," the official journal of the American Society of Gene Therapy.

Justin Gatlin wins 100 meters in 10.15 in Padua

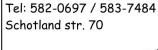
PADUA, Italy (AP) — Justin Gatlin clocked 10.15 seconds to win the 100 meters at a meet near Venice on Friday in

the last race on his return from a four-year doping ban before returning home to the United States to prepare for the indoor season.

The time was slightly off the 10.09 he recorded in Rovereto on Tuesday, when he finished behind Jamaican winner Johan Blake.

This time, the 2004 Olympic champion soundly beat runner-up Michael Frater of Jamaica, who crossed in 10.27.

Gatlin also posted victories at three minor meets in Estonia and Finland since being cleared to compete again.





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Compelling round of 16 at basketball worlds

BRIAN MAHONEY AP Basketball Writer ISTANBUL (AP)

With the field down to 16 teams, the knockout stage of the basketball world championship begins Saturday with two highly anticipated matchups.

Balkan rivals Serbia and Croatia, who fought a war in the early 1990s, play the opening game at the Sinan Erdem Dome. That's followed by Spain vs. Greece, two of the pre-tournament favorites. Spain beat Greece for the title four years ago in Japan.

On Sunday, it's Slovenia-Australia, followed by unbeaten host Turkey against France

The United States plays Angola and Russia faces New Zealand on Monday, before Lithuania faces China and Argentina plays Brazil on Tuesday.

Brazil coach Ruben Magnano will be facing some of the same Argentine players he led to gold in the 2004 Olympics and silver in the 2002 worlds. "Major tournaments, like the world championships and the Olympics can be very cruel at times," the Argentina native said

The long rest before Brazil's game gives Anderson Varejao more time for to recover. The Cleveland Cavaliers forward grabbed 12 rebounds Tuesday



USA's Kevin Durant, left, congratulates Derrick Rose after scoring during the preliminary round of the World Basketball Championship, Monday, Aug. 30, 2010, in Istanbul, Turkey. Associated Press

in just his second game after sitting out the first three with a sprained right ankle. He'll have to lead the defensive effort against Argentina's Luis Scola of the Houston Rockets, who leads the tournament with 29 points per game.

"To try to stop him, it's not easy, we know that," Varejao said. "It's for a reason he's the scoring leader in the tournament, but we believe we can do that, we can do a good job against him."

The U.S. wasn't sharp in its final two games of group play, but guard Chauncey Billups compared those matchups against Iran and Tunisia to an NBA team taking it easy in its final two regular-season games before the playoffs.

"That's over with now, and now we can get to the meat and potatoes," Billups said.

The Americans are expected to get to the semifinals.

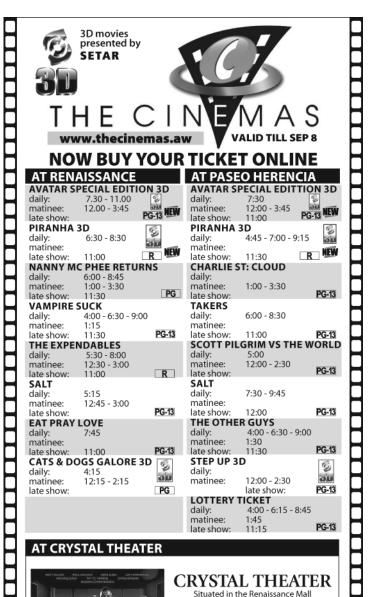
"When it comes to basketball, people expect us to win and play well all the time and win every tournament, win every game," center Lamar Odom said. "And basketball's played all over the world now, there's a balance of talent spread throughout the world."

Angola finished fourth in Group A. The perennial African champions lost all five

games at the 2008 Olympics, where the U.S. beat them 97-76, but bounced back to advance to the knockout stage for the second straight time in the world championship.

"We know we are going to play a tough and athletic Angola team that played us really well in the Olympics two years ago," guard Stephen Curry said. "We're going to be ready."

Russia has slipped since its surprising European championship in 2007, while New Zealand has Kirk Penney, the tournament's second-leading scorer with 25.4 points per game.



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WNBA Roundup MVP Jackson leads Storm past Mercury in Game 1

SEATTLE (AP) — Australia's Lauren Jackson had 23 points and 17 rebounds to lead the Seattle Storm to an 82-74 victory over the Phoenix Mercury on Thursday in Game 1 of the Western Conference finals.

Jackson, who won her third WNBA most valuable player award before the game, set a team playoff record for rebounds.

Svetlana Abrosimova added 16 points for the Storm, Le'Coe Willingham had 10, and Sue Bird handed out 10 assists in Seattle's 19th straight home win.

Penny Taylor scored 16 points and Candice Dupree added 15 for the Mercury. Diana Taurasi, who averaged 22.6 points during the regular season, scored nine on 2-of-15 shooting. Game 2 of the best-of-3 series is Sunday at Phoenix.



Seattle Storm's Lauren Jackson shoots against the Phoenix Mercury during the first half of the opening game of the WNBA basketball Western Conference finals, Thursday, Sept. 2, 2010, in Seattle.

Associated Press

Murray wins as top players cruise at U.S. Open

NEW YORK (AP) — Andy Murray made short work of another opponent at the U.S. Open on Friday as the top players dominated and asserted their title claims at the season's last Grand Slam event.

Jamaican Murray beat Dustin Brown 7-5, 6-3, 6-0, while Spanish pair Fernando Verdasco and David Ferrer also cruised through in straight

All nine men's seeds in action Friday progressed to the third round.

The women's draw was almost as predictable, with Kim Clijsters, Sam Stosur and Francesca Schiavone all winners, along with former No.1 Ana Ivanovic and Elena Dementieva.

The fourth-seeded Murray is seeking to make his second U.S. Open final in three years. He won this year's U.S. Open Series title for lead-up events, which means he could earn up to an extra \$1 million in prize money if he wins the tournament.

The dreadlocked Brown pushed him to 5-5 in the first set of the match Friday, but Murray won 14 of the next 17 games. The entire match lasted 1 hour, 25 minutes and the third set went just 18 minutes

Verdasco had an even easier time, breezing past Adrian Mannarino of France, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2. Compatriot Ferrer was also relatively untroubled in beating Benjamin Becker of Germany, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

Mikhail Youzhny won to set up a third-round clash with John Isner, who progressed along with another bigserving American Sam Querrey to raise hopes of a local challenger after the early elimination of Andy Roddick. Isner, striving to be known for more than winning the longest tennis match in history, reached the third round by beating Marco Chiudinelli of Switzerland 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (7), 6-4

"I don't want that to be the lasting image of my career," the towering Isner said. "So that's up to me to make it not that way. It's up to me to do well in big tournaments, tournaments such as this."

Querrey as a 6-2, 6-3, 6-4 winner over Marcel Granollers

of Spain.

There were no upsets in women's third-round play, other than, perhaps, the fact that Kim Clijsters lost the first three games of her match before coming back to defeat No. 27 Petra Kvitova 6-3, 6-0. Stosur beat Sara Errani 6-2, 6-3 while the highlight was Schiavone's back-to-thenet, between-the-legs shot in her 6-1, 7-5 victory over Alona Bondarenko — nearly identical to what Roger Federer has done each of the past two years at the U.S. Open.

"I'd like to see it again," Schiavone said. "I'm curious." Ivanovic had a 7-5, 6-0 win over Virginie Razzano while Dementieva won 7-5, 6-2 against No.24 Daniela Hantuchova — the highestseeded player in either singles draw to lose Friday.

There was a rain delay of less than half an hour when the outer edges of Hurricane Earl made a passing appearance. But otherwise, play carried on under gray clouds and temperatures that refreshingly stayed below 30 degrees.



Andy Murray of Britain applauds with his racket after beating Dustin Brown of Jamaica 7-5, 6-3, 6-0 at the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Friday, Sept. 3, 2010. Associated Press

Italy's Petacchi wins 20th career Spanish **Vuelta stage**

ORIHUELA, Spain (AP) — Alessandro Petacchi recorded his 20th Spanish Vuelta stage victory by taking the seventh leg on Friday, while Philippe Gilbert of Belgium maintained the overall lead for the fifth straight day.

The Italian Lampre-Farnese cyclist easily won the sprint finish of the 116.3-mile ride from Murcia to Orihuela. His winning time was 4 hours, 36 minutes, 12 seconds.

British rider Mark Cavendish was second and Juan Jose Haedo of Argentina was third in the same time. However, Cavendish and the rest of Team Sky was left mourning the death of masseur Txema Gonzalez, who died Friday from a bacterial infection he contracted during

the race. He was 43.

The 36-year-old Petacchi first competed in the Spanish classic in 1996, with his maiden victory coming four years later.

Petacchi has been linked to blood doping in Italy. Although he did not test positive, the investigation involves wire taps and testimony. Petacchi could receive a life ban if found guilty since it would be his second doping offense. He previously served a nine-month ban for excessive use of an asthma drug. "I'm immensely happy because I've spent more time between the Tour de France and the Vuelta with my lawyers than my family, who I dedicate this victory to," Petacchi was quoted as saying by Europa Press. "There are a lot of fast sprinters



Lampre Farnese Vini rider Alessandro Petacchi of Italy raises his arms as he wins the seventh stage of the Tour of Spain "La Vuelta" cycling race between Murcia and Orihuela September 3, 2010.

REUTERS

here and it's very hard to win but I feel I'm getting better day-

Gilbert finished 13th in the same time to keep the leader's red jersey and a 10-second advantage over Spanish duo Joaquin Rodriguez and Igor

Anton. The Pharma-Lotto cyclist's time through seven legs is 27:12:38.

Frank Schleck of Luxembourg stayed 50 seconds behind while defending champion Denis Menchov trailed Gilbert by

Gilbert will have his work cut out in Saturday's mountainous eighth stage, a 118-mile ride between Villena and Xorret de Cati that is expected to go some way to revealing the true contenders.

Pacquiao focuses on Margarito, not Mayweather rant

STEPHEN HAWKINS AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Boxing champion Manny Pacquiao dismissed a derogatory online video posted by Floyd Mayweather Jr., calling it an "uneducated message" and choosing to instead focus on his upcoming fight with Antonio Margarito. In the widely circulated video, Mayweather goes expletive-filled and sometimes racist rant against Pacquiao, the newly elected Congressman from the Philippines who faces Margarito on Nov. 13 at Stadium Cowboys Dallas.

Mayweather said during the video, which appeared this week, that he's on vacation "for about a year" and would easily defeat Pacquiao after that.

"I just heard about that, but I didn't see the video," Pacquiao said Friday, at the final stop of a three-city tour to promote his fight. "But it's an uneducated message."

Mayweather, at times interacting with fans by phone on the video, claims Pacquiao "can't speak no English" and has "never seen a contract he didn't like." There are also suggestions that the Filipino sensation has used performance-enhancing assertions raised previously by the Mayweather camp that resulted in a defamation lawsuit that is still pending.



Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, center, poses for photos with boxers Manny Pacquiao, left, of the Philippines and Antonio Margarito of Mexico during a pre-fight news conference promoting their upcoming bout at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas, Friday, Sept. 3, 2010. The two fighters face each other on Nov. 13, 2010 for the WBC junior middleweight title. Associated Press

"It's a really cheap low blow, but again, consider where it came from," said Freddie Roach, Pacquiao's trainer. "We tried to fight him. He said no. He doesn't want to fight." Roach said he hadn't seen the Mayweather video.

Mayweather's chief adviser, Leonard Ellerbe, did not return messages left by The Associated Press. His publicist, Kelly Swanson, said in an e-mail that she had seen the video but had not been in touch with Mayweather or Ellerbe and couldn't comment. Fans have been calling for Mayweather to fight Pacquiao, but negotiations have repeatedly broken down for what could have been the richest fight in boxing history. When a deal wasn't reached in January, Pacquiao instead fought Joshua Clottey, defeating him in March at Cowboys Stadium. When negotiations broke down again this summer, Pacquiao turned his attention to Margarito, whom he'll fight for a vacant junior middleweight title.

It is unclear when the Mayweather video was made, but it appeared online this week when Pacquiao and Margarito were in the midst of their promotional tour. After stops in Beverly Hills

and New York, the media tour wrapped up Friday at Cowboys Stadium — in an end zone plaza instead of on the field, which was being prepared for a college football game.

When asked about the possibility of a Mayweather bout Friday, Pacquiao responded: "I'm not looking for that fight. I'm satisfied with what I've done in boxing already."

Pacquiao said he's only planning a couple of more fights before retiring, though he gave no indication of who the opponents might be. The seven-division champion said earlier this week that he would still face Mayweather if he accepted the fight.

Todd duBoef of promoter Top Rank said he had heard about the Mayweather video but "probably" didn't have any interest in seeing it. Mayweather used to be a Top Rank fighter.

DuBoef also said he doesn't want to hear Mayweather asking to fight Pacquiao, especially after his team denied that the second round of negotiations even took place this summer.

"It's sad," duBoef said. "You hope that people are a little more mature than things like that. ... We've tried this twice (to make the fight). We tried it twice and you denied there were negotiations. Enough of that."

DuBoef said that Pacquiao (51-3-2, 38 KOs) was ready to fight and not interested in waiting any longer on a bout with Mayweather, who is 41-0 after a unanimous decision in May over Shane Mosley. Mayweather took that fight after the Pacquiao deal fell through.

That was Mosley's first fight since beating Margarito in January 2009, and the last time that Margarito fought in the United States. He was suspended for one year because a plaster-like substance was found in Margarito's hand wraps before his bout against Mosley in Los Angeles.

ROETHLISBERGER

Continued from fron page

Roethlisberger was accused of sexually assaulting a Georgia college student following a night of drinking in a Milledgeville, Georgia, bar on March 5. He was not charged by Georgia authorities.

The league said the "reinstatement is contingent on Roethlisberger continuing to adhere to the program established by our advisors and avoiding any further violations of the personal conduct policy."

"You have told me and the Steelers that you are committed to making better decisions," Goodell said in a letter to Roethlisberger. "Your actions over the past several months have been consistent with that promise and you must continue to honor that commitment."

Roethlisberger is the first player suspended by Goodell under the NFL's personal conduct policy who was not arrested, charged with or convicted of a crime. However, Goodell said in April the policy allows him to impose such a penalty when the league's integrity and reputation are at stake.

R o e t h l i s b e r g e r 's representatives at one point wanted the suspension cut in half, to three games, but Goodell stipulated in April it would be a six-game ban that could only be reduced to four games.

Steelers president Art Rooney accompanied Roethlisberger on his trip to see Goodell. Rooney and his organization kept in frequent contact with Goodell throughout the fourmonth process, during which Roethlisberger underwent



extensive evaluations. Indeed, Goodell's ruling was made in consultation with Rooney and the Steelers, who were angered by the two-time Super Bowl winner's behavior and would have punished him if the league hadn't.



Guns, drugs, and La Barbie: Why America is responsible for Mexican drug cartels

New York – After the arrest this week of one of Mexico's most ruthless drug lords, "La Barbie," media coverage has highlighted his American-born, football star origins. But the kingpin is the product of America in a more profound way: We are morally responsible for his career. Indeed, we are culpable for the rise of all the Mexican drug cartels, whose \$39 billion criminal enterprise has led to more than 23,000 deaths since 2006, and brought a fledgling democracy to its knees.

To attribute moral responsibility to one nation for another's domestic problems is usually a fraught process, since there are so many causal forces in play. But in this case, the connection is crystal clear. Mexican drug lords exist to feed the US drug market. And they get their guns through the US weapons market. We give the bad guys their money by buying their drugs; we sell them the guns that enable their continued existence; and they threaten a nation of more than 100 million people at our border. Like a game of Whac-a-Mole where the moles are on cocaine, speak Spanish, and wield rocket-propelled grenades, the Mexican cartels, in existence for decades, emerged as kingpins when they filled the supply-side gap that opened up when Colombia's Cali and Medellín cartels dissolved in the 1990s, along with the cocaine trafficking route through Florida.

Mexican cartels supply American drug demandsAccording to the National Drug Intelligence Center, Mexican cartels now dominate the wholesale illegal drug market in the US, both by producing drugs in Mexico and trafficking those grown elsewhere in Latin America. The State Department estimates that 90% of the cocaine entering the US transits through the Mexico. The cartels are also the biggest foreign supplier of marijuana to the United States, and a major supplier of methamphetamine and heroin. They distribute wholesale to their outlets in more than 2,500 American cities, leaving retail sales to various American gangs.

Mexico's cartels earn upward of \$39 billion annually in illicit proceeds from the United States, the Justice Department estimates. To put that in context, it's roughly equal to the global annual revenue of Google and Halliburton combined.

What's more, we help them launder their money. From 2003 to 2008, Wachovia Corp. alone laundered at least \$110 million, according to the Justice Department. Wachovia admitted to "serious and systematic" violations of the Bank Secrecy Act and agreed to pay \$160 million to resolve the criminal case against them. American Express Bank International and Western Union have also recently agreed to huge settlements with the government for

laundering Mexican drug proceeds.

Buying guns in the USWhile the cartels pay fewer taxes then their fellow Fortune 100 companies, their security overhead is more expensive. They cross the border for those purposes, too, where we welcome them with (open) arms. In Mexico, civilians need approval from the military to purchase firearms and cannot own high-powered pistols or large-caliber rifles. In the US, however, gun dealers can sell multiple military-style rifles to citizens without even reporting the sales.

The cartels hire people without criminal records to buy a handful of weapons at a time, from licensed dealers – there are 6,600 along the border alone – or private individuals at gun shows, and then drive them across the border. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, and Explosives estimates that 90 percent of the traced firearmss recovered in Mexico originated in the US.

Flush with American money and guns, the cartels have wreaked havoc in Mexico, especially in the northern states along the 2,000-mile border. Since December 2006, when President Felipe Calderón declared war on the cartels and deployed more than 45,000 troops, at least 23,000 people have been killed in drug-related battles.

The cartels' violence features, among other tactics, beheading police officers, branding victims, shooting up newspaper offices after they post articles on corruption, intimidating voters, and assassinating leading law enforcement officials, elected leaders, journalists, and political candidates. The fear is so great that in some towns political parties cannot find anyone to run for mayor.

Intimidation and corruptionThe parade of horribles is long. The list of Mexican officials either charged with drug conspiracy or placed in the cartels' crosshairs indicates the level of internal corruption and terror the cartels can generate.

Rondolfo Torre, the leading gubernatorial candidate in the border state of Tamaulipas, was gunned down about a month after Gregoria Sanchez, mayor of Cancun and candidate for Quintana Roo governor was arrested for protecting the Beltran Levya and Zetas drug organizations. Meanwhile, former Quintana Roo Gov. Mario Villanueva was extradited earlier this summer to the US on charges of conspiring to import hundreds of tons of cocaine. Over in the western state of Sinaloa, agents of Mexico's Federal Investigative Agency are believed to work as Sinaloa cartel enforcers. And the Attorney General's Office reported in December 2005 that one-fifth of its officers were under investigation.

Through rampant kidnapping of employees,

When Apple and Facebook Clash

WASHINGTON, DC – Ping, Apple's new foray into social networking, is already driving a wedge between Facebook and the Cupertino company. At first, Apple's new social network was partially integrated with Facebook, allowing users to connect with their Facebook friends who had also signed up for Ping. Facebook has since blocked Ping from accessing its API, rendering the feature useless and forcing Apple to dismantle it. In a surprisingly candid interview with All Things Digital, Apple CEO Steve Jobs said negotiations to further integrate with Facebook broke down because of the "onerous terms" set by Facebook. So what happened and is this just the beginning of a longer feud? Here's Where Apple and Facebook Clashed, explains Kara Swisher at All Things Digital:

According to sources familiar with Facebook's platform, the social networking giant essentially denied Apple's Ping access to application programming interfaces that would allow it to search for an iTunes user's friends on Facebook who also had signed up for Ping.

Normally, this API access is open and does not require permission.

That is, unless some entity wants to access it a lot. In that case, Facebook requires an agreement for reasons primarily centered on protection of Facebook user data and, of course, infrastructure impact... Sources said Apple went ahead with a plan to access the Facebook APIs freely, but Facebook blocked it since it violated its terms of service. When that happened, it seems Apple pulled the plug on the connection with Facebook friends.

It's Pretty Simple, Apple Broke the Rules, writes Keith Dsouza at Techie Buzz: "The major reason behind Facebook blocking Ping's API requests is not because of it being a competitor, but because of the amount of users iTunes currently has, 160 million to be precise. So even though Facebook's Connect API is free to use, however, if someone wants to use it a lot, which is the case with iTunes, they have to have an agreement with Facebook.

I'm Not So Sure About That, writes Miguel Helft at The New York Times: "iTunes has 160 million users, according to Apple. But since only a small fraction of those users have enrolled in Ping, it is not clear how Apple could have exceeded Facebook's limits for traffic. In its Developer Principles, Facebook says that developers who exceed 100 million calls every day must contact the company because they may be subject to additional contract terms. It is also not clear why Facebook did not call Apple to resolve the issue before it pulled the plug on Ping connections."

This Is Definitely About Competition, writes Seth Weintraub at 9to5 Mac: "Facebook knows that Ping not only looks like Facebook but it carves a large chunk out of what Facebook does and plans to do. They have no intention of easily allowing Apple to use their social graph to replicate their capabilities on Ping. You think Facebook has any plans to sell music using recomendations? I'm sure it is on the agenda. Therefore, Zuckerberg isn't going to just give away the store to Apple. But does Apple really need Facebook to sign up users and make? Judging from the fact that Lady Gaga has a couple hundred thousand followers less than 24 hours after Ping was released, I'd say not."

They'll Kiss and Make Up, writes Mike Schramm at TUAW: "Despite the sour start to the social mixup between Ping and FB, Engadget suggests that conversations between the two companies are still ongoing. It may not be long before all this is a hearty laugh between friends."

4rubu TODAY

Hit 'Hoarders' returns for third season

NEW YORK - From the mixture of hurt, anger and embarrassment on his face, Gordon seems like one of the last people who would want to open his life to cameras for a reality television show.

His is one of four stories featured in back-to-back episodes of A&E's feel-creepy "Hoarders," which opens its third season Monday at 9 p.m. EDT. It's the network's most popular series among young viewers, something of a surprise given that it's about emotionally ill people living amid mounds of garbage.

Gordon (A&E doesn't fully identify people who get treatment through their show) lives in a filthy home with his wife and two adult children. There's no running water. The piles of trash are so deep that his wife got trapped in one and needed help to be extricated.

Clearly, it couldn't have been the direction he had envisioned his life taking. His frustration embarrassment



his life help explain why he lashed out at a mental health professional who prodded his wife to throw things in the trash and at camera operators recording the scene.

"I'd rather die here than let anyone in the front door," he

Yet his tragic life was exposed for all to see. As with many profiled on "Hoarders," being featured on television is a necessary bargain: The production company pays for counseling and aftercare that they would not have been able to afford otherwise.

"He did it because it was the only option left," said Jodi Flynn, executive producer of the series for the Seattle-based Screaming Flea Productions. "They were going to condemn the house if he didn't do

something."
"Hoarders" was a hit from the start at A&E, and last winter's second season saw an audience 10 percent higher than the first, the Nielsen Co. said. It averaged 2.3 million viewers an episode and, in the truest mark of success for a nonfiction cable show, produced imitators such as "Hoarding: TLC's Buried Alive" and "Confessions: Animal Hoarding," on Animal Planet.

Screaming Flea was first hired by A&E to do a makeover series focusing on a company that cleans up after hoarders. Although "Dirty Deeds" didn't work, the network was interested in delving deeper into the hoarding disorder and the current documentary-style series was born.

An Emmy Awards to Remember

Los Angeles – They danced, they sang and host Jimmy Fallon killed it at the 62nd Primetime Emmy Awards held Sunday, Aug. 29, at the Nokia Theater in downtown Los Angeles. It was a hot afternoon as the festivities began, with vampires like just-married "True Blood" stars Anna Pacquin, clad in an armored Alexander McQueen sheath, and Stephen Moyer braving the sun. Their popular HBO show was shut out this year, but overall HBO led the pack with a total of eight Emmys, including wins for a luminously beautiful Claire Danes for "Temple Grandin," a shaggy Al Pacino for "You Don't Know Jack," and Tom Hanks for producing the epic miniseries "The Pacific." Making a splash on the red carpet were the "Mad Men" beauties, as Christina Hendricks wowed in a plunging lavender Zac Posen gown and January Jones got a bit wacky in a peacock-blue Versace; Jon Hamm and Bryan Batt, the guys from that Outstanding Drama Series winning-show looked great, too, in sleek tuxedoes. Hamm did a quick change inside and joined Fallon, Betty White, Tina Fey, Kate Gosselin, Joel McHale, Nina Dobrev and the "Glee" cast, including Jane Lynch, Chris Colfer, Cory Monteith, Amber Riley, and Lea Michele for a grand singing and dancing opening that set the tone for the rest of the broadcast. It was fast, funny and filled with laughs, as was the rest of the show. One of the most amusing moments was when Edie Falco took home the trophy for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series for her work in "Nurse Jackie." "This is just the most ridiculous thing that has ever, ever happened!" she said with a grimace. "I am not funny." Jim Parsons won for Lead Actor in a Comedy for "The Big Bang Theory," and a well-deserving Jane Lynch took home the Supporting Actress in a Comedy trophy for "Glee." But "Modern Family" took home the big prize, Outstanding Comedy Series. Other winners included "The Closer" star Kyra Sedgwick for Lead Actress in a Drama Series and Bryan Cranston, who took home his third consecutive Lead Actor Drama prize for his work in "Breaking Bad." George Clooney was honored with the Bob Hope Humanitarian Award, and he reminded everyone that "the people who really need the spotlight, the Haitians, the Sudanese, the people in the Gulf Coast" should be remembered even in the midst of entertainment celebrations.





BUSINESS B11 Saturday, September 4, 2010

BUSILESS - TODAY

Wall Street set for bumper week as economy fears ease

NEW YORK – Wall Street was set to close out its best week in six on Friday after recent economic data, including a stronger-than-expected jobs report, showed the U.S. economy may be in better shape than thought.

The risk aversion of the summer months, which had pressured stocks, showed signs of lessening. The S&P 500 has gained almost 5 percent in the last three days. Treasury prices have eased, while the U.S. dollar dipped as investors moved out of safe-havens.

An August non-farm payrolls report that showed fewer job losses than forecast was the latest data to help lift gloom over Wall Street. But the optimism was checked after another report showed growth in the U.S. services sector eased to its slowest pace since the start of the year.

"Absolute caution needs to continue, and we're going to have more choppiness," said Christian Wagner, chief investment officer Longview Capital Management in Wilmington, Delaware. "I think that if we end up close to break-even for the year that'll be great." The Dow Jones industrial average (.DJI) gained 88.14 points, or 0.85 percent, to 10,408.24. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index (.SPX) gained 10.14 points, or 0.93 percent, to 1,100.24. The Nasdaq Composite Index (.IXIC) gained 21.60 points, or 0.98 percent, to 2,221.61. Stocks sold off sharply over the summer due to concerns that the U.S. economy may be headed for a double-dip



recession. But a report that showed the manufacturing sector grew more than expected in August sparked a rally on Wednesday that helped stocks to their best day in eight weeks.

This week's move has helped the S&P 500 work off some of its nearly oversold condition as its relative strength index, or RSI, moves into neutral territory around the 56.5 mark.

RSI compares recent gains and losses and helps determine if a security or an index is under- or overvalued.

"If these (jobs) numbers would have been last week, I don't think it would have had a positive influence," said Alan B. Lancz & Associates, an investment advisory firm in Toledo, Ohio. "It's one step forward phase, after going backward."

The S&P has risen 3.5 percent so far this week but is still down about 10 percent from a yearly high in April. U.S. employment fell for a third straight month in August, the Labor Department said on Friday. But the loss of 54,000 non-farm jobs was far less than the 100,000 expected

by economists polled by Reuters, and private hiring surprised on the upside.

For Reuters Insider on the jobs report http://link.reuters.com/vef98n

However, that was tempered by the ISM non-manufacturing report that showed the vast U.S. services sector grew in August at its slowest pace since January.

There was some support on the corporate front. Take-Two Interactive Inc (TTWO.O) jumped 8 percent to \$9.56 a day after the video game maker's quarterly profit smashed Wall Street's expectations of a loss, and it raised its forecast.

However, Campbell Soup Co (CPB.N) shed 3.5 percent to \$36 after posting lower-than-expected quarterly sales and forecasting growth below its long-term target as it grapples with a weak economy.

Celldex Therapeutics Inc (CLDX.O) sank 25.5 percent to \$3.55 after Pfizer Inc (PFE.N) ended a co-development deal on Celldex's lead product, a cancer vaccine.

In contrast, shares of Dow component Pfizer were unchanged at \$16.40.

Obama says to address new economic ideas next week



WASHINGTON – President Barack Obama will outline new measures next week to boost the U.S. economy after August data on Friday showed again that jobs -- the central issue in November elections -- were being created too slowly.

Obama, speaking to reporters in the White House Rose Garden, greeted a better-than-expected August employment report that showed thousands of new private sector jobs were created as "positive news."

But he said the numbers were not good enough and more needed to be done to address U.S. economic woes.

The White House is under pressure to show tangible results in lifting growth and hiring before congressional elections in November, when Obama's Democrats face punishment from voters anxious about near double-digit unemployment. "I will be addressing a broader package of ideas next week," Obama said. "We are confident that we are moving in the right direction. But we want to keep this recovery moving stronger and accelerate the job growth that is needed so desperately all across the country."

On Monday, the president highlighted a number of possible options including extending middle class tax cuts, investing in clean energy, spending more on infrastructure, and delivering more tax cuts to businesses to encourage hiring.

The White House declined to give more specifics about the measures and a spokeswoman said final decisions had not been made.

"We need to take further steps to create jobs and keep the economy growing, including extending tax cuts for the middle class and investing in the areas of our economy where the potential for job growth is greatest," Obama said.

"In the weeks ahead, I'll be discussing some of these ideas in more detail."

Obama will have ample opportunity to flesh out those thoughts next week. He is planning to travel to Milwaukee on Monday, the Labor Day holiday, and will visit Cleveland on Wednesday. He will also hold a White House news conference on Friday, September 10.

Aruba_TODAY

Review: mTrip iPhone app uses augmented reality

NEW YORK – The new iPhone application mTrip is a travel guide and then some: It uses the latest in smart phone technology to make it easier to stay on track in a foreign locale.

But isn't getting lost part of the fun of traveling? For me, yes. For others, maybe not.

So-called "augmented reality" became more widely available about a year ago and takes advantage of a smart phone's GPS and compass features, along with access to high-speed wireless networks, to mash up super-local Web content with the world that surrounds you.

It works like this: You turn on the application, hit the augmented reality button and then look through your phone's camera at the Brooklyn Bridge or the Empire State Building. Icons pop up that show you other points of interest, or restaurants within a half mile of your location, whether the restaurant is open, and what reviewers are saying about it. The feature feels a bit like being in a "Matrix" film, but in a good way. I used the application for New York.

Being a local, I was impressed with the restaurant selections and shopping options that popped up when I pointed my camera down Broadway in SoHo, or more off-the-beaten-path locations like my neighborhood, Carroll Gardens in Brooklyn.

The mTrip developers partnered with Sparks, a massive travel guide company, to provide content but also rely on user-generated reviews and suggestions. There's a spot in the app that allows you to send a new place back to mTrip for reviews and additions to its list

The app also has something called mTrip genius, which works similarly to the genius feature in iTunes. You note whether you want more or fewer parks, religion or monuments, and it designs an itinerary for you.

Overall, I felt the app was a bit busy, offering perhaps so much it could distract the user from the travel at hand, but developer Frederic de Pardieu noted it's not necessary to use every feature offered.

"We give you options," he said. "You do with them what

you like."

The first phones with Google's Android operating system, which enables augmented reality, came out in the past year. The iPhone became augmented-reality friendly with the compass that debuted in June 2009 on the iPhone 3GS. Apple also recently joined Google in making it possible for software developers to overlay images on the phone's camera view.

mTrip doesn't specify that you need a newer phone to use this feature. I don't have one and had to spend a while wrangling a newer phone to borrow in order to test the app, so beware before buying that you have the right device to take full advantage.

That said, augmented reality still feels like it hasn't fully arrived. The technology can generally pinpoint location to within 30 feet if the user is outdoors, but inside you're lost. Businesses I saw on the screen weren't actually in front of me, though they were nearby. But I'm not sure I'd have known that if I was using the app in a foreign city. Often tags sometimes just

kind of dart around on the screen and it honestly didn't make it easier to FIND the locale, simply noting the locale existed.

Another problem: Using GPS for extended periods sucked up the battery life on both my phone and my borrowed iPhone 4 quicker than usual.

Developers are dreaming big about the concept, but it's not necessarily for everyone. It was cool, but when the initial ooh-aah



value wore off, I found myself wanting to walk around and look at the world. John Boris, executive vice president for Lonely Planet in the U.S., said the feature can only do so much.

"Travelers want to be able to fold up their phone and see physically in a virtual world what is around them," he said. "We can help you get to the heart of the place, but we can't carry you around."

Lonely Planet has Compass Guides that use the augmented reality feature with the Google Android, all in international cities.

"It's the continuing evolution of the traveler's toolkit," Boris said. "It's an important component of today and for tomorrow. But, there will be another piece of technology right around the corner."

Dell cedes data-storage maker 3Par to HP



SEATTLE – Dell Inc. is walking away from a bidding contest with rival Hewlett-Packard Co. for data-storage maker 3Par Inc.

Dell said Thursday it won't match HP's offer to pay \$33 per share for 3Par, or about \$2.07 billion. Dell's decision came barely an hour after 3Par announced it had received Dell's revised offer of \$32 per share and then the even stronger bid from HP.

In a statement, 3Par said Dell's revised offer contained new terms that it found unacceptable, including a multiyear reseller agreement with Dell that would remain in effect even if 3Par were to be bought by another company.

The board of 3Par approved HP's offer, which is 83 percent above Dell's first offer and more than three times what 3Par stock was trading at then. The deal is expected to close by the end of the year.

"We took a measured approach throughout the process and have decided to end these discussions," said Dave Johnson, Dell's senior vice president for corporate strategy.

Shares of 3Par increased 80 cents, or 2.5 percent, to close Thursday at \$32.88. Before Dell conceded, 3Par shares were trading as high as \$33.84 as investors expected Dell to match or beat HP's \$33-per-share offer

Dell shares jumped 24 cents, or 2 percent, to close at \$12.36, while shares of HP, which is based in Palo Alto,

Calif., increased 47 cents, or 1.2 percent, to \$39.68. Dell, which is based in Round Rock, Texas, made the first offer for 3Par on Aug. 16, at \$18 per share. As part of an agreement between the two companies, Fremont, Calif.-based 3Par paid Dell a \$72 million termination fee

HP and Dell, two of the world's largest personal computer makers, were looking at 3Par as a way to build up their data center and "cloud computing" businesses, delivering software, data storage and other services to customers over the Internet.

Both companies are racing to expand beyond the PC business, where profits are shrinking. Computer makers have been slashing prices to stay competitive, while the cost of LCD screens, memory and other parts has increased.

The hardware and consulting services that Dell, HP and others sell to big enterprises come with richer profits; now, technology providers see cloud computing as the next area of big growth and sweeter profits.

Increasingly, companies aren't buying their own computer servers for certain tasks anymore. Instead, they're paying to have software they would have stored on those machines delivered to them over the Internet. Dell, HP and others are taking advantage of the nascent trend by offering cloud-computing services on a subscription basis and selling equipment and software to help customers build their own cloud systems.

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Foto de archivo del presidente Hugo Chávez durante un evento para promover los préstamos de dinero para la compra de vehículos iraníes en Maracay, Venezuela, ago 31 2010. REUTERS/Miraflores Palace/ Handout

CARACAS (Reuters) - El presidente Hugo Chávez negó el jueves tajantemente que en Venezuela se haya incrementado la criminalidad durante sus 11 años de gobierno, tema que está dominando el inicio de la campaña para las elecciones legislativas del 26 de septiembre.

Organismos internacionales clasifican a Venezuela como uno de los países más violentos fuera de las zonas de guerra y a Caracas como una de las ciudades más peligrosas del mundo, basados en cálculos de organizaciones no gubernamentales

más inseguros del mundo

pues el Gobierno no publica estadísticas oficiales

"No es verdad que Venezuela sea uno de los países más inseguros del mundo, ni es verdad que aquí hay más violencia que hace 11 años.

> Nos van a echar cuentos a nosotros, que cruzamos por los caminos que hemos cruzado", dijo Chávez en un acto transmitido en cadena nacional de

radio y televisión.

Sin embargo, cifras oficiales de la policía científica muestran que entre 1998 y 2005 los homicidios en Venezuela se incrementaron un 120 por ciento a 9.944 casos anuales. En el 2003 se

> tocó un pico de 11.342 muertos por el hampa común. El Gobierno ha lanzado recientemente numerosos operativos policiales y actos sobre seguridad ciudadana para contrarrestar los

ataques de sus críticos, que han tomado el tema del crimen como caballo de batalla electoral para mostrar el fracaso e ineficiencia de la "revolución socialista" de Chávez. La oposición, que logró unirse en un bloque para los comicios para la Asamblea Nacional, busca capitalizar la caída de popularidad del mandatario en momentos de crisis económica. Ante el silencio oficial, organizaciones de derechos humanos y medios de comunicación aseguran que la inseguridad se ha disparado en años recientes y calculan que tan sólo en el 2009 se produjeron entre 13.000 y 16.000 homicidios, más de un muerto cada hora.

El diario estadounidense The New York Times desató la indignación del Ejecutivo venezolano al publicar en agosto un artículo que afirmaba que el número de muertos en Venezuela por arma de fuego el año pasado superó con creces las tasas de Irak -4.644 civiles muertos en el 2009- o México.

"Hay que tener riñones (...) para afirmar lo que los escuálidos (opositores) andan repitiendo todos los días, que Venezuela es un país más inseguro que Irak", dijo un molesto Chávez en el acto de inauguración de unas plantas eléctricas desde el petrolero estado Zulia, en el occidente del país.

El Gobierno acusa a sus adversarios y a los medios privados de exagerar la situación con fines políticos, pese a que la inseguridad es el tema que más preocupa a los venezolanos de toda condición y el apartado en el que peor calificación recibe la administración Chávez.

"Lo que sí es verdad es que el tema de la delincuencia es un tema duro", reconoció el gobernante, sin ofrecer datos alternativos a los reportados extraoficialmente.

Aunque analistas prevén que el oficialismo revalidará su mayoría en la Asamblea Nacional, la oposición aspira a lograr al menos un tercio de los escaños para frenar el avance del socialismo en el país socio de la OPEP.

Presidente Santos viaja a zona de ataque rebelde

BOGOTA (AP) - El presidente Juan Manuel Santo, antes de viajar a una zona del sur del país donde 14 carabineros murieron en un ataque de presuntos guerrilleros, pidió el viernes un minuto de silencio por las víctimas. Santos, junto a su ministro de Defensa, Rodrigo Rivera, y mandos militares, salía hacia a la localidad de Florencia, capital del departamento de Caquetá, a unos 380 kilómetros al suroeste de Bogotá. Antes de viajar y al intervenir en un foro judicial, Santos condenó el ataque y pidió el minuto de silencio, según un comunicado difundido por la presidencia en un correo electrónico. "Mi corazón está con las familias de estos héroes de la patria que murieron cumpliendo su deber", dijo Santos citado en el comunicado.

Los carabineros murieron la noche del miércoles en una carretera cercana a El Doncello, en el Caquetá, cuando una caravana de cinco vehículos con los policías, de 23 a 27 años,

pasó por un camino minado, según explicó a reporteros el comandante de Carabineros, general Santiago Parra. Otros siete carabineros quedaron heridos en el primer vehículo, el que recibió el mayor impacto de las explosiones. Según Parra, algunos de los policías fueron rematados con tiros de fusil, mientras varios de los cuerpos quedaron incinerados por el fuego que consumió los camiones. La caravana cumplía labores de patrullaje y venía desde la localidad de Puerto Rico, al norte de Caquetá, rumbo a Florencia. El secretario de gobierno de Caquetá, Ediberto Endo, dijo que se trató de un campo minado de unos 800 metros de largo y las cargas explosivas eran aproximadamente unas 25.





Presidente paraguayo es hospitalizado para quimioterapia

ASUNCION (Reuters) presidente paraguayo, Fernando Lugo, fue hospitalizado temprano el viernes en una clínica privada de Asunción, donde se someterá a su segunda sesión de quimioterapia para tratar un cáncer linfático, informó uno de sus médicos.

previsto que el Está

suministran los medicamentos por vía endovenosa, concluva cerca del mediodía v que Lugo descanse el resto del día y el fin de semana en la residencia presidencial, dijo a Reuters el hematólogo Alfredo Boccia.

"El está tranquilo y sin molestias. Saldrá de alta antes del mediodía", dijo Boccia. Lugo, de 59 años, fue tratamiento, en el que se le recientemente diagnosticado con linfoma no Hodgkin con afectación ósea, un tipo de cáncer que afecta al sistema linfático. El presidente, de 59 años, tuvo su primera sesión de quimioterapia en Brasil, adonde viajó a mediados de agosto para confirmar el diagnóstico.

El presidente tiene por delante otras cuatro sesiones



Imagen de archivo del presidente de Paraguay, Fernando Lugo, durante una reunión en Asunción. Ago 24 2010 REUTERS/ Stringer/ARCHIVO

se aproximadamente cada tres

administrarán Estado. Los médicos aseguran que el linfoma es altamente semanas, pero aseguró que la curable. Lugo asumió en enfermedad no interferirá en agosto del 2008 para un sus funciones como jefe de período de cinco años.

Fidel Castro encabeza mitin con uniforme militar

LA HABANA (AP) - Fidel Castro semanas: una potencial guerra nuclear en desempolvó su uniforme verde olivo el viernes al pronunciar un discurso en un mitin político con estudiantes en la universidad capitalina, aunque sin sus insignias de comandante en jefe.

El ex mandatario, quien lucía sano y enérgico, leyó un mensaje en el cual fue intercalando opiniones propias sobre el tema que acaparó su atención en estas Medio Oriente.

"Le ha correspondido a Cuba la dura tarea de advertir a la humanidad del peligro real que está confrontando. En esa actividad no debemos desmayar", expresó el líder de 84 años, quien se recupera de una enfermedad que lo tuvo al borde de la muerte y lo obligó a delegar el poder en 2006.





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